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THE ADELAIDE PLAINS.

TAKEN FROM WHEAL WATKINS LEAD MINE.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

AND ITS

MINES,

WITH AN

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE COLONY,

UNDER ITS SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS,

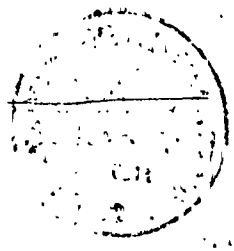
TO

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THE PERIOD OF CAPTAIN GREY'S DEPARTURE.

BY

FRANCIS DUTTON.



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LONDON:

T. AND W. BOONE, NEW BOND STREET.

1846.


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TO THE

HON. CAPTAIN STURT,

MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

ASSISTANT RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, REGISTRAR GENERAL, ETC.,

ADELAIDE.

My dear Captain Sturt,

In dedicating this volume to you, I trust you will, in the goodness of your heart, overlook the insignificance of the offering, and accept it as a proof of the esteem and admiration for your character, which is felt for you by every Colonist of South Australia, as well as by

Yours sincerely,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THE great interest latterly excited, and the attention, now very generally drawn, to the highly prosperous and flourishing colony of South Australia, added to the absence of any recently published general information regarding it, induced me to devote the past winter to the compilation of this volume.

In acknowledging its many imperfections of style or language, I beg to claim the indulgent consideration of the reader; my object has been rather to give a plain matter-of-fact description of the present state of the colony, than to aim at any literary merit; and I have striven to fulfil the maxim of Saussure, " qu'on peut être utile, sans atteindre à la perfection."

Lower Brook Street,
Easter, 1846.

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ERRATA.

Page 30, l. 18, *for* "ilemma," *read* "dilemma."
Page 59, l. 29, *for* "lang," *read* "large."
Page 101, l. 11, *for* "great and permanent relief," *read* "great relief."
Page 112, l. 19, *for* "8 feet water," *read* "9 feet water."
Page 167, l. 1, *for* "civil and military," *read* "civil and judicial."

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THE EARLY HISTORY, UP TO THE PERIOD OF COLONEL GAWLER'S RECALL.

In the early part of the year 1830, two boats, with a small band of adventurous spirits, were following the devious course of the River Murray, in New South Wales, hitherto unexplored; this expedition was headed by the gallant Captain Sturt, so appropriately termed "the father of Australian exploration"—passing safely through hostile bands of armed natives, who crowded the banks of the river, escaping the hidden dangers of sandspits and sunken trees, they traced the whole length of this large river for more than a thousand miles, to where it expands into the magnificent Lake Victoria, on the south coast of Australia, and thence into the sea.

Hitherto, the whole of that part of the country on the south coast of New Holland or Australia, lying between Cape Jervis and Cape Howe, was known only by the vague information obtained from navigators—who being principally occupied in surveying the shores, had no opportunity of ascertain-

ing the nature of the country inland. So late as 1822, Capt. Philip Parker King, R.N., gravely stated before the Philosophical Society of New South Wales, that "the south coast of Australia is barren, and in every respect useless and unfavourable for colonization."

Now it unfortunately happens for this sweeping assertion, but fortunately, for the many thousands of human beings now located there, that this same south coast of Australia, is not alone the best portion of the whole continent, but also perhaps unsurpassed by any land in the world—and it has always been a matter of surprise to those, who have had an opportunity of witnessing the rapid growth of the Port Phillip and South Australian settlements, that these fine districts should have so long remained unknown and uninhabited. As far as South Australia is concerned, this is however not to be regretted, for we have thereby escaped the taint of convictism, our greatest pride being that ours is, and always will remain, a free colony.

Captain Sturt's surveys of the country through which the lower part of the Murray flows, were very limited, owing to his having unfortunately lost by accident a portion of his provisions, thus obliging him to hurry upon his far more arduous and difficult return up the river, and against the current.*

* Colonel Napier says, in reference to Captain Sturt's exploration :—"It is impossible to read the account of Captain Sturt's expedition down the Murray without feeling much admiration

In his report to the Governor he said: "Cursory "as my glance was, I could not but think I was

for our countryman, and his companions; who, casting themselves upon a great river, with little besides their courage to sustain their efforts, allowed the stream to bear them, reckless, and resolved, into the heart of the desert: an intrepid enterprise! unanimated by the glory of battle, yet accompanied by the hardships of a campaign—without splendour, and without reward. This little band of undaunted men well knew that severe trials awaited their bold adventure: perils from men, and from water, and from starvation; and, if they fell amidst these dangers, no fame would attend their memory; their courage would be unheard of; and their death only mourned by a few friends! Nor was the fortitude, with which they extricated themselves from the dangers of the desert, less to be admired, than the boldness with which they entered these wilds. It is not easy to express the anxiety with which we read of the determination taken by Sturt, to retrace his steps, and return by the sources of the Murray, and the Morumbidgee. A thousand miles had he floated down these rivers, encompassed by many dangers: he had, at last, reached the sea, with the strength, and the provisions, of his party nearly exhausted; they were also surrounded by tribes, threatening hostility. In this fearful crisis Captain Sturt formed the hazardous resolution to remount the river; to repass thousands of the natives, who had, certainly, exhibited much kindness of nature; but, also, on various occasions, such promptitude for war, as to preclude all confidence in their friendship: they might repent of their former hospitality, and seize the returning opportunity, to destroy the adventurous strangers! If to *descend* with the current, was an enterprise of difficulty; what must have been the labour of *ascending?* It was descended in the full enjoyment of physical strength, and ample supplies of food: it was ascended with the increased difficulty of an opposing current, under severe privations, and

" leaving behind me the fullest reward of our toil, " in a country that would ultimately render our " discoveries valuable. . . . " . . . . Hurried as my " view of it was, my eye never fell on a country " of more promising aspect, or of more favourable " position, than that which occupies the space " between the Lake and the ranges of St. Vincent's " Gulph, and continuing northerly, stretches away " without any visible boundary." Captain Sturt then proceeds to recommend a further examination of the coast, from Encounter Bay up St. Vincent's Gulph, and he ventured to predict, " that a closer survey " of the interjacent country would be attended " with the most beneficial results."

General Sir Ralph Darling without hesitation acted upon this recommendation, and determined to avail himself of the services of Captain Barker, 39th Regiment, who, being about to be recalled from King George's Sound, was ordered to proceed

with exhausted muscular powers. The sufferings which these men experienced, produced temporary insanity in one of them, and blindness in Captain Sturt himself! Eighty-eight days of incessant exertion were expended in the execution of this arduous, and successful achievement.

" I am fully conscious that no words of mine can be of any service to these intrepid explorers; but it gratifies my own feelings, to express the admiration that I entertain for their conduct, and to spread the record of their names, in the small circle of my readers."—*Colonization; particularly in Southern Australia: by Major-General Sir Charles James Napier.*

to St. Vincent's Gulph, to satisfy himself as to the correctness of Captain Sturt's views.

Captain Barker arrived in the Gulph in April, 1831, and was engaged in exploring the country as far as Lake Victoria, when he was unfortunately killed by the natives. One of the finest districts in South Australia, with the mountain which occupies so prominent a situation in it, is named after Captain Barker, thus perpetuating the name of its amiable and unfortunate explorer.*

Although the result of this last disastrous undertaking was not productive of much additional information, the views taken by Captain Sturt were fully corroborated by the report of Mr. Kent, who formed one of Captain Barker's party. Mr. Kent stated: "that the soil was rich, there was abundance of the "finest pasturage, no lack of fresh water, and that "it was a spot in whose valleys the exile might "hope to build for himself and for his family a "peaceful and prosperous retreat."

* "Captain Barker was in disposition, as he was in the close of his life, in many respects similar to Captain Cook. Mild, affable, and attentive, he had the esteem and regard of every companion, and the respect of every one under him. Zealous in the discharge of his public duties, honourable and just in private life; a lover and a follower of science; indefatigable and dauntless in his pursuits; a steady friend, an entertaining companion; charitable, kind-hearted, disinterested, and sincere —the task is equally difficult to find adequate expressions of praise or of regret. In him the king lost one of his most valuable officers, and his regiment one of its most efficient members."—*Sturt's Expeditions*, Vol. 2. p. 243.

For some years previous to this period, much attention had been devoted to the subject of rescuing some portion of the Australian Continent from the inundation of felons, relentlessly poured into other parts of it by the mother country, by establishing new settlements formed only of free emigrants. The first experiment was made in 1828, on the west coast, by founding the colony of Swan River, or as it is more generally known, Western Australia; but having been injudiciously planned, so were, and still are, the consequences, full of disaster and disappointment to those who embarked their fortunes in that Colony. The land was almost given to all who chose to ask for it, every one was, or wanted to be master, nobody would be servant;—without unity of purpose, the population spread itself over the country, and up to the present day, drags on a precarious existence—every one who can, emigrating to the more fortunate sister colony, and in spite of many excellent natural qualities, added to a very favourable geographical situation, Swan River will probably remain for many years the abode of only a dozen or so of Government officials, and a handful of inhabitants.

The result of Captain Sturt's explorations, confirmed as his reports were subsequently, again revived the interest already felt in England to form free settlements in Australia. Here, then, was a new field opened to try another experiment; a portion of country, sufficiently extended in its limits,

to hold a large population, possessing all requisites of good soil, plenty of water, and a most genial climate, nothing was wanted but to guard against falling into those errors which had been productive of so much disaster in the Swan River settlement.

In 1831, the first committee was formed to carry out this new plan, but was again broken up, without, however, abandoning it. It was remodelled in 1834, and composed of thirty-two influential gentlemen,* under the Chairmanship of W. Woolryche Whitmore, Esq. M. P., who has ever since continued to take the same unabated interest in the progress of the colony.

A new colonization-theory had about this time

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Abraham Borredaile, Esq.
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William Clay, Esq. M.P.
Raikes Currie, Esq.
William Gowan, Esq.
Samuel Mills, Esq.
Sir W. Molesworth, Bart. M.P.
Jacob Montefiore, Esq.
George Warde Norman, Esq.
G. Poulett Scrope, Esq. M.P.
Dr. Southwood Smith.
Edward Strutt, Esq. M.P.
George Grote, Esq. M.P.
Benj. Hawes, Esq. M.P.
J. H. Hawkins, Esq. M.P.
Rowland Hill, Esq.
Matthew D. Hill, Esq. M.P.
William Hutt, Esq. M.P.
John Melville, Esq.
Colonel Torrens, M.P.
Daniel Wakefield, jun. Esq.
Henry Warburton, Esq. M.P.
Henry G. Ward, Esq. M.P.
John Wilkes, Esq. M.P.
Joseph Wilson, Esq. M.P.
John Ashton Yates, Esq.

Treasurer—George Grote, Esq. M.P.
Solicitor—Joseph Parkes, Esq.
Honorary Secretary—Robert Gouger, Esq.

been broached, and its merits much canvassed by different writers. The originator of this scheme was Mr. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, after whom it has been called, "Wakefield's Self-Supporting System." The peculiar principles upon which it is founded, are based on the theory, that land, without labour, is valueless; it proposes, therefore, to create a revenue by the sale of the waste and unappropriated lands of the province; to employ the whole of the revenue thus created, as an emigration fund, and to fix the price of waste land sufficiently high, to ensure a constant supply of labour for its cultivation. A writer on this subject states:—"The "grand object of the improved system, in the dis- "posal of waste lands, was to regulate it in a "way so as not to have it too cheap or too dear; "and it was soon understood, that the due propor- "tion between people and land might be constantly "secured, by abandoning altogether the system of "*grants*, and requiring an uniform price per acre "for all new land without exception. If the price "be not too low, it deters speculators from obtaining "land with a view of leaving their property in a "desert state, and thus prevents injurious disper- "sion; it also, by compelling every labourer to "work for wages, until he has saved the only means "of obtaining land, insures a supply of labour for "hire. If, on the other hand, the price be not too "high, it neither confines the settlers, within a "space inconveniently narrow, nor does it prevent

" the thrifty labourer from becoming a landowner " after working some time for wages."

The South Australian landowner was therefore not supposed to be paying for the land, but for the means of making that land productive; viz. labour.

That this *system* was a sound one, and worked successfully, is now not a matter of doubt, but of historical record—but it is equally certain that its early operations were fraught with difficulty and trial. Difficulties there were in abundance—and faults not a few;—taking into consideration the fallibility of all human endeavours, this is not to be wondered at—but whatever faults there were in the machinery, upon which the successful developement of the plan rested, there were none in the principles themselves. These have been put to a test, severe beyond any example in this world; had they not been sound, they must have given way under them; for a time, the errors committed by the " powers that be," retarded the progress of the Colony, but no sooner were its financial difficulties overcome and placed on a sound basis by an able Governor, no sooner were the resources of the Colony brought into operation by the vigorous and energetic industry of its free inhabitants, than South Australia became, not alone a self-supporting, but a debt-paying Colony.

Those very difficulties now happily long since overcome, and administrative errors, committed by persons, who no one doubts had the best interests of the Colony at heart, and wished it well, may serve

as guiding beacons for future years, and prevent their recurrence.

For more than three years did the gentlemen composing the South Australian Association labour assiduously to effect their object—keeping in view the essential principle of the Colony, that the lands should be disposed of according to a prescribed and undeviating system, they proposed as the surest means of effecting it, that the administration of the government, and the disposal of the public land, should not be placed in separate hands, but should be vested in one and the same incorporate body exercising sovereign power, by delegation from the Crown. This proposition, not being in consonance with modern usage, although some of the first British colonies formed in America were cited as precedents, was refused.

The British Government was doubtless right in refusing it, but it ought not to have stopped here; having once admitted the principle, and deemed it expedient that its practical applicability should be tested by actual experiment, it should not have been left to the doubtful fate of a half-supported measure. With ill-judged and cheese-paring economy they deemed it necessary, at first starting, to clog that experiment with conditions which entailed from the first a heavy debt on the colony; the ministry might have known then, what they afterwards were compelled to admit, that they were virtually responsible for any mismanagement which might occur in a

province, which although it formed, by virtue of an Act of Parliament, an integral portion of the British empire, they left to the unsatisfactory working of a divided authority, without positive and direct control from themselves.

By the persevering exertions of Messrs. Whitmore, Grote, Angas, Hutt, Torrens, Montefiore, Currie," &c. &c. (whose names will always be gratefully remembered in the colony), and aided by the friendly assistance in the House of Lords of his Grace the Duke of Wellington, whose comprehensive mind at once seized the importance of the measure in a political point of view, difficulties, which at times appeared insuperable, were overcome, and on the 15th of August, 1834, an Act passed the Imperial Parliament, 4 and 5 William IV. c. 95, erecting South Australia into a British province. This Act " fixes " the boundaries of the colony, provides for the ap- " pointment of a board of commissioners to carry " the Act into effect, as well as a resident commis- " sioner to act under them in the colony, fixes the " minimum price of land, and ordains that the pro- " ceeds of such land shall be applied to the sending " out of free emigrants; gives commissioners powers " to borrow money to pay the expenses of the colony " as a charge on the revenue. Provides that con- " victs shall at no time be transported there, and that " whenever the population amounted to 50,000, " a constitution was to be granted. The Act was " not to be considered in force until the sum of " £35,000 had been raised by the sale of land. The

"commissioners were further required to raise "£20,000 by the issue of bonds to be called South "Australian revenue securities, and invest this sum "in the funds as a guarantee that the colony would "at no time be a charge on the mother country."

These were hard conditions; the money had to be borrowed at an enormous interest, whilst, with the guarantee of the government, it might have been done at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in order to raise the £35,000 by the sale of land, the first purchasers were entitled to receive at the minimum price for the sum of £81, one acre of town land and 134 acres of country land, which latter were called preliminary sections. It was on this occasion that the South Australian Company came forward, and settled the matter, by buying land to the amount which was required to make up that sum.

Owing to these delays the Commissioners did not receive their appointment till May 1835, and consisted of the following gentlemen:—

COLONEL TORRENS, F.R.S., *Chairman.*
W. A. MACKINNON, ESQ. M.P.
JACOB MONTEFIORE, ESQ.
W. HUTT, ESQ. M.P.
GEO. PALMER, JUN. ESQ.
JOHN WRIGHT, ESQ.
GEO. FIFE ANGAS, ESQ.
SAMUEL MILLS, ESQ.

The Commissioners published the following illustration of the new system, which is given entire, in order to put the reader in possession of the peculiar

and important advantages we possess over the other Australian Colonies, with regard to the tenure of our lands and the component parts of our population.

1. The characteristic feature of the plan of colonization laid down by the Act of Parliament is a certain means for securing a sufficient supply of free labour.

2. This is accomplished by requiring every applicant for colonial land, in order to entitle himself to a grant, to pay a certain sum per acre to a general fund to be employed in carrying out labourers.

3. The Emigration Fund thus raised is placed under the management of the Commissioners, whose duty it is to regulate the rate of payment, so as to obtain neither too large nor too small a number of labourers, and, by the selection of young, healthy persons of good character, and of both sexes in equal numbers, to render the fund as efficient for the purposes of the colony as possible.

4. This arrangement secures many very important advantages:— First, having provided a sufficient supply of *free* labour, the Act of Parliament declares that no *convicts* shall be sent to the settlement, and thus the Colonists are protected from the enormous evils which result from the immorality and profligacy unavoidable in a penal settlement. Secondly, as the labourers will be carried out at the common cost of the landowners by means of the emigration fund, and as they will be sufficiently numerous, it is not necessary that they should be *indentured* to any one. Both employers and labourers will be perfectly free to enter into any arrangements which may be mutually agreed upon, a state of things which experience has shown to be much more conducive to contentment and prosperity than any other. Thirdly, the contributions to the emigration fund being a necessary preliminary to the acquisition of land, labourers taken out cost-free, before becoming landowners, and thus ceasing to work for others, will furnish the means of carrying out other labourers to supply their places. This arrangement, the fairness of which must be obvious to every one, is really beneficial, not only to those who are landowners in the

first instance, but to those also who may become such by a course of industry and frugality; for while it diminishes the injurious facility with which, in most new Colonies, a person with scarcely any capital can become a petty landowner, or *cottier*, a temptation which few have sufficient strength of mind to resist, notwithstanding the state is one of incessant care and toil,—it holds out a prospect of real independence and comfort to those who will patiently wait the very few years which are necessary to enable any one with colonial wages to acquire sufficient capital to purchase land and become a master. Fourthly, as those who will cultivate their land, and thus require many labourers, will contribute no more to the emigration fund than those who may leave it waste, the non-cultivation of extensive appropriated districts—one of the chief obstacles to the progress of every colony hitherto established—will be greatly discouraged, if not altogether prevented.

5. In determining the amount of contribution to the emigrant fund, the Commissioners are required, at any given time, to make a uniform charge per acre, whatever may be the situation or quality of the land granted, and in no case to fix the charge at less than twelve shillings per acre. The payment is made once only, namely, when the party receives a grant of the land, which grant gives him an absolute and unconditional title to the estate; the Crown making no reserve whatever.*

---

* It is right to observe here, that the tenure by which land is held in South Australia is *very much superior to that by which land is held in the other Australian Colonies.* In them the Crown reserves to itself the right of mining, of cutting timber or stone for public works, and of making roads across any estate it chooses, while in South Australia the land is sold in unconditional and absolute fee, without any reserve to the Crown for any purpose. This is the more important, as it has been satisfactorily ascertained that in some districts there are found limestone, iron, slate, granite, &c.

[Little did the writer of the above dream that to the meagre list of minerals cited by him, were so soon to be added, all the most valuable of the metals!—*Author.*]

6. As the contribution to the emigrant fund is the sole condition of obtaining land, the amount of contribution is described in the Act of Parliament and in the regulations as to its price. It is worthy of remark, however, that as the Commissioners are required to expend the emigration fund, without any deduction whatever, in carrying out labourers, the whole contribution is returned to those who make it in the form of passage money for their labourers; and therefore, strictly speaking, it is not land, but the facility of obtaining labour, which is bought. It is important that this principle should be steadily kept in view by those who may desire to understand the plan on which the colony is formed.

The regulations of the Commissioners for the sale of land, and for the selection of emigrant labourers, being framed in accordance with the preceding plan of colonization, it is clearly evident that no fears of a want of labourers need be entertained. The more capitalists who emigrate, the more land will be sold; the greater the amount of land sold, the greater the accumulation of the emigration fund; and the larger the emigration fund, the more labourers can be sent from England. A constant supply will be kept up, according to the wants of the province, and it may therefore fairly be said, that the colonist who purchases land purchases also labour. The money he pays for his land is expended in supplying him with the means of making his purchase valuable; as land merely, it is not worth a farthing an acre, however naturally rich it may be; but, possessed of labourers to cultivate the soil, its value rises immediately to the full sum he has paid for it. It is labour therefore, not land alone, that the South Australian Colonist purchases; and herein consists the grand advantage which this Colony possesses over all others, and upon which it rests its hopes of prosperity.

In the month of May, 1835, the Commissioners recommended Colonel now General Sir Charles James Napier for the Governorship of South Australia, who, on the 20th of that month stated, that he could not

accept of it, without "some troops and without power to draw upon the Home Government in case of necessity." These conditions being at variance with the self-supporting system, upon which the Colony was established, were not acceded to by the Government, who were consequently obliged to make another choice.

It is much to be regretted that this very judicious first choice of the Commissioners could not have been carried into effect; his superior rank would have kept down all jealous bickerings in the other officers of the Government, his energetic mind would have led him to set an example to the colonists how to overcome difficulties which were sure to beset him as a Governor, as well as the emigrant and colonist; and the views he expressed in his interesting work on Colonization, with regard to the duties of both Governor and Colonists, experience has proved to be so substantially correct, that there can be no doubt that the early destinies of the colony would have been in his hands successfully treated.

Under the provisions of the Act of 15th Aug. 1834, the Home Government appointed a Governor, to whom was confided the executive powers, and the Commissioners appointed a Resident Commissioner for the Colony, who was to have the exclusive direction of the disposal of the public land; these two offices being quite distinct one from the other, and the authority divided.

Another clause in the Act which gave rise to a good deal of mischief was, that the whole of the proceeds of the land sales, before any revenue could possibly be raised, were devoted to emigration, without applying a portion of those funds in the first instance to defray the surveys, and execute some indispensable public buildings, the necessary funds for which were entailed as a debt at a ruinous rate of interest on the colony.

The Act also required a quantity of land to be sold before it could be in force, which was attended with great subsequent inconvenience, for those who had bought the land, and in consequence made their arrangements to leave England, never waited till they were apprised of that land having been surveyed, so that a large body of emigrants not only actually arrived in St. Vincent's Gulph at the same time with the Surveyor-General, who at that moment had not the least conception where he was to fix the site for the first settlement, but arrived also several months before the Governor.

The officer recommended by the Commissioners for the appointment of Governor, after Colonel Napier's refusal, was Captain Hindmarsh, R.N., who had served with distinction under Lords Howe, Cochrane, and Nelson. J. H. Fisher, Esq. was nominated Resident Commissioner, and Colonel Light, Surveyor-General.

Captain Hindmarsh landed in Holdfast Bay on the eastern coast of Gulph St. Vincent on the

28th of December, 1836, and issued the proclamation establishing the government of the province—the first body of emigrants having arrived in the month of July preceding.

Colonel Light had fixed upon the site of the town prior to Governor Hindmarsh's arrival, which he was specially empowered to do, and the Governor as particularly ordered not to interfere with, it having been distinctly stated to the Governor by the Commissioners, that he must be "content to receive "and to hold his appointment, subject to the con-"dition of non-interference with the officers ap-"pointed to execute the surveys and to dispose of "the public lands."

Captain Hindmarsh unfortunately thought fit to deviate from the line of policy laid down for him by the Commissioners, and this soon produced such endless controversies between himself and the other officers that, to use Lord Glenelg's own words, "all "his despatches were filled with the narration of "them."

By the injudicious and unauthorised interference with Colonel Light's duties,* he having repeatedly ordered him on service quite foreign to his office, the surveys were necessarily retarded, and many settlers having by this time arrived, who, as living was very dear, were clamorously demanding to be put into possession of their land, in order to begin operations, great discontent was created, and much ill feeling arose amongst all parties.

* Parliamentary Papers.

During Governor Hindmarsh's short administration, little or nothing was effected towards the progress of the colony; the harbour was found and made available, the site of the town fixed, and streets named; the town lots were selected in March 1837, and the country lands in May 1838. Captain Hindmarsh does not appear to have had any control over the angry feeling excited even amongst his own government officers, as they seem to have played a prominent part in all the dissensions of that period, two of them actually resorting to the "argumentum ad baculum" in the public street, to settle their differences!

This state of affairs could last only a sufficient length of time for the Home authorities to be apprised of it; on the 22d of December, 1837, one short twelve months after Captain Hindmarsh's assumption of the government, we find the Commissioners addressing a very lengthy despatch to Lord Glenelg, full of complaint against the Governor (the particulars of which however can have no interest for the general reader), in consequence of which, on the 21st of February, 1838, Lord Glenelg notified to Captain Hindmarsh his recall, at the same time signifying to him "his deep "regret that any circumstances should have rendered "unavoidable the dissolution of his official relations "with a gentleman whose claims to respect, both on "public and private grounds, he should be ever "ready to admit."

The Resident Commissioner having also given cause of dissatisfaction, Lord Glenelg concurred in the opinion of the board, that he should be removed from that office.

Colonel Gawler, K.H., late 52nd Regiment, was the successor appointed by Lord Glenelg, on the recommendation of the Commissioners, who selected him in preference to many other candidates. He was a distinguished officer of the Duke of Wellington's army in the Peninsula, and present at many of the great sieges and battles, Badajoz, Vittoria, Nives, Nivelles, Orthes, Toulouse, and lastly at Waterloo, where he commanded the right flank company of the 52nd during the great charge on the imperial guards. Gallant in the field, he was also possessed of those virtues which distinguish a man in private life, with high intellectual attainments, and being a good Christian, his appointment gave the fairest hopes of being productive of lasting benefit to the colony.

He arrived in the colony on the 12th of October, 1838, uniting in himself the two offices of Governor and Resident Commissioner, the separation of which had worked so unsatisfactorily in the preceding administration. On the 31st of July of the same year an Act passed the Imperial Legislature, 1 and 2 Vict. cap. 60, to amend the Act 4 and 5 W. IV., and empowering the Commissioners, or their representatives in the colony, with their consent, to borrow

such sums from the fund derived from the sales of public lands, as might be necessary to carry on the government of the colony efficiently.

"The board of Commissioners, with the previous "sanction of the Lords of the Treasury, issued very "careful instructions on the subject of expenditure, "to the Governor on the 9th of November, 1838."* In a subsequent despatch, of 8th February, 1839, "the Resident Commissioner was allowed, on account "of some additional charges, to increase his expen- "diture altogether to £16,500 per annum."†

Later in the same year they intimated that they would be ready to "afford the necessary pecuniary "assistance to any moderate extent, in erecting "wharfs at Adelaide, approving also of the erection of "a government house and public offices, the total "cost of which was not to exceed the estimate of "£25,162."‡

In addition to these, a "general authority" was given to Colonel Gawler to deviate from his instructions under circumstances of undoubted necessity.§

Colonel Light, the first Surveyor-General, had resigned, and was succeeded in that office by Captain Frome, of the Royal Engineers, who was accompanied to the colony by a party of sappers and

* Commissioners' Letter to Lord J. Russell of 7th July, 1840.

† Idem.

‡ Idem. *ut supra.*

§ Commissioners' letter to Capt. Frome, R. E., of 11th May, 1839.

miners. With an efficient and powerful staff, the surveys were now rapidly proceeded with; the colonists were put in possession of their land, which by directing their attention to agricultural operations, put an end to those discontents, which had been engendered by the delay in the surveys.

Up to August, 1839, 7412 settlers had arrived in the colony, and 250,320 acres of land had been sold, producing 229,756*l.*, the colony having been in existence two and a half years.

In justice to Colonel Gawler, to show that difficulties of no ordinary magnitude beset him on his arrival, the following extract of his despatch to Lord Glenelg, of 23rd January, 1839, is given. It furnishes at the same time a commentary on the way in which matters were conducted under the preceding administration:—

"The affairs of the province at this moment are involved in most aggravated and complicated difficulties. I do not wish to make my situation appear worse than it is when I say, I do not think it possible that a governor of a colony could be placed in more trying circumstances than mine. On arriving here about three months ago, I found the public offices with scarcely a pretension to system; every man did as he would, and got on as he could. There were scarcely any records of past proceedings, of public accounts, or of issues of stores. The non-fulfilment of one of the leading principles on which the regulations made for the disposal of land were based, that the 'surveys should be in advance of the demand,' had produced a number of complicated questions with regard to leasing of pasturage, order of selection, and so forth, which the letter of the law, as it stood, could not rectify. Sections for occupation were only laid out in the plain about

Adelaide, in a district not exceeding a square of ten miles on the side. Seven other districts, of about the same average dimensions, remained to be marked out for the choice of preliminary purchasers, who will occupy the greater part of the good land in them. The Survey department was reduced to the deputy surveyor-general, one draughtsman, and one assistant surveyor; its instruments to a great extent unserviceable, and its office with scarcely any maps of the country, and totally without system, records, or regulations. Scarcely any settlers in the country, no tillage, very little sheep or cattle pasturing, and this only by a few enterprising individuals risking their chance as squatters. The two landing-places, Holdfast Bay and the Old Port, of the most indifferent description; the expense of transport to and from them to Adelaide most ruinous. The population, shut up in Adelaide, existing principally upon the unhealthy and uncertain profits of land-jobbing. Capital flowing out, for the necessaries of life, to Sydney and Van Diemen's Land, almost as fast as it was brought in by passengers from England. The colonial finances in a state of thorough confusion and defalcation. Up to this day, my written orders, given on the 18th October, 1839, have not obtained for me from the treasurer abstracts of receipts and expenditure for the first three quarters of the year 1838. Almost all that I have been enabled to discover definitely of the finances of this period is, that the whole regulated expenditure for the year, 12,000*l*., was drawn and expended in the first quarter.

"This, my Lord, is certainly not a complete, and I can conscientiously affirm, to the best of my judgment, not an overdrawn statement of the difficulties in which I found the colony. If to these your Lordship will add those serious dangers which must accompany a new population of persons unrestrained by mutual acquaintance, or old habits and associations, flowing in with what may be called fearful rapidity, upon a colony which stands alone at the breadth of the world from its only point of assistance or reference, I think that your Lordship will justify the persuasion that is on my mind, that, of human agency, nothing but a strong and steady

hand at the helm of government can guide this colony through its early dangers."

The above gives a pretty good idea how much and what was wanted; and the colony certainly did receive a mighty impetus in the way in which those wants were supplied, for many public works were undertaken during Colonel Gawler's administration: everything for a time flourished, and everybody was making money. But this was only for a time; it was nothing more than a fictitious state of prosperity, produced by the presence of a large amount of money in the colony, caused by the Government expenditure. Nobody, however, seemed to have had the least suspicion that there was any possibility of an early period being put to this influx of foreign capital.

South Australia was producing nothing at the time, and immense sums were obliged to be sent to the neighbouring colonies for the necessary articles of daily food, an expense which was heightened by the failure of the crops there, which brought the article of flour alone, in 1840, to my knowledge, up to £90. and £100. per ton. As long as the Government circulated such large sums in the colony this dearness was not felt; Colonel Gawler, actuated doubtless by an ardent wish for the rapid advancement of the province, undertook too much at once; an immense population was centered in the town of Adelaide and immediate neighbourhood, which may be gathered from the fact that in 1840 there were

no less than seventy public-houses in the municipality alone; the working classes scouted the idea of proceeding into the country, when they were sure of employment at large wages on the Government works, and the country settler was thus prevented from producing those very articles of food, which, by keeping the money in the colony, would have laid the sure foundation of future wealth. The colony, therefore, did not receive any further benefit from this large Government outlay beyond the possession of a number of handsome buildings, necessary, may be, but all the profits of whose erection went to the neighbouring colonies in exchange for food. Captain Grey subsequently ably illustrated this subject in one of his despatches to Lord John Russell:—

"Whilst so many persons in England are maintaining that an extravagant Government expenditure is necessary and beneficial in the early days of a colony, I trust I may be permitted to record my dissent from this opinion, and to detail briefly the reasons on which this dissent is founded.

"In the early stage of a colony (as has been the case here up to a very recent date) there are no producers either of the necessaries of life or of articles of export. Under such circumstances a large outlay upon extensive public buildings and town improvements is no further benefit to the colony, than that these buildings and improvements are obtained.

"The whole of the sum expended in labour is carried out of the colony, to purchase every article of consumption and clothing.

"The colony thus depending altogether upon imports, and the demand being uncertain, the necessaries of life fluctuate extraordinarily in value, and are generally extremely high. This cir-

cumstance, combined with the great employment of labour by the Government, raises inordinately the price of labour. The country settler can thus not become a producer of food or articles of export. His agricultural operations are limited, his capital eaten up by the high price of wages, and, unless the necessaries of life retain an exorbitant value, he is soon ruined. It is impossible, under such circumstances, for the settler to compete with other colonies, where the price of labour and of provisions is only half what it is in the colony where he resides. He could not do this even if his farm was actually broken up and enclosed, so that, in this respect, he stood on an equality with agriculturists in other colonies ; much less then can he do it, when he has a farm to create from an untrodden wilderness. If this, at all times an expensive and difficult operation, has to be performed when the price of labour is inordinately high, no profits can ever repay the sacrifice of capital which has been made, and the disappointed agriculturist is compelled to abandon his legitimate occupations, and to betake himself to speculations in land and buildings. Experience in this colony has fully and lamentably exhibited these facts.

"It appears, therefore, that in order to gain the advantage of having public buildings in a colony at an early period, of a magnitude altogether unnecessary, not only is a sort of prohibition placed upon agricultural pursuits, but it must be recollected that, from the high price of labour and materials, the public buildings themselves cost, at least, double what they would have cost at a period only a year or two subsequent to their erection ; and, from the difficulty of procuring proper materials, and efficient superintendence at so early a stage of a colony, they are also generally very badly executed."

I have carefully waded through the mass of Parliamentary Papers relative to South Australian affairs, and extracted every word that I could find contained in them, showing how far Colonel

Gawler was authorized in this immense expenditure. I have heard it stated that he had almost a *carte blanche* from the Commissioners. Indeed something of the kind appears in Mr. Rowland Hill's letter as above quoted, when he speaks about Colonel Gawler having a "general power" to deviate from those instructions, but unless it can be satisfactorily shewn that he had that full authority for his subsequent expenditure, he will never cease to be blamed for having been, although unwillingly, the cause of the disasters which followed. Far and wide has been the censure meted out to Colonel Gawler for the mismanagement of the Colonial finances, nor were ministers themselves backward in adding their mite of disapproval in Parliament, on a state of things which they themselves had the means of preventing from the commencement. In the colony, Col. Gawler was, and is, much respected; I believe I am justified in saying, that even amongst those who have been severe losers by his policy, a feeling of esteem for his character is predominant; but it is idle to set up in his defence, as I have heard it, that "his administration ought to be judged by his motives, and not by its results." As long as the world has existed, and to the end of the chapter it will be the same, men will be judged by results, nor can I see how a defence of this point of Colonel Gawler's administration can be set up, much less sustained.

"The consideration of where the money was to "come from, seemed to have escaped every person

" of authority in the colony."* Was there not an Act of Parliament, by the provisions of which, the Governor might have satisfied himself that the Commissioners were only able to raise a certain sum by way of loan, even supposing they had allowed him to draw to the full extent of that sum. The Commissioners declare positively, in their letter to Lord J. Russell of 26th of August, 1840, that "the limit of their in- " structions had been exceeded nine or ten times in " amount;" they then go on to state that, "as no " further sale could at that moment be commanded " of bills on the Commissioners, £15,000. had been " borrowed of the bank of South Australia, in viola- " tion of the standing instructions of the Commis- " sioners, to prevent any delay in settling all salaries " and other claims upon the public on the 1st of " January, 1840. It is distressing to perceive the " blindness to the real difficulties of the colony which " the arguments employed in favour of this measure " betray. Much stress is laid on the discredit which " would ensue, if every amount due at the begin- " ning of the year, could not be paid off punctually " to the day; but not a thought is bestowed on the " far more serious, and possibly fatal discredit to " the colony, if drafts from its Government being " presented in this country, there were no assets to " meet them. The only limit to drawing bills on " the Commissioners is shewn to have been the pos- " sibility or otherwise of getting rid of them in the

* Commissioners' Papers.

" colony; the idea of the Home funds being ex-
" hausted seems never to have occurred to any one."

It may here be said, why did the banks, why did the colonists countenance such an expenditure, the latter by taking the Governor's bills, the former by cashing them? I would not for a moment allude to such an absurd argument, did I not know that there are in England many people who are disposed to take this wrong view of it, and even in Parliament, this very unfair mode of reasoning was made use of against the colonists. The answer is obvious: the Governor of a British province, holding his appointment under the sign manual of the sovereign, is the representative of the Crown: as such, every Englishman places implicit reliance and faith in all his acts, nor was it the place of any man in the colony to ask the Governor what the nature of his authority and instructions was.

Why, even the Colonial Treasurer of those days, Mr. Jackson, " a gentleman," to use Colonel Gawler's words, of " clear perception, sound judgment, and " sterling integrity of character," who had to countersign all the Governor's drafts, must have been himself quite in the dark as to the Governor's instructions, for he never doubted the propriety of issuing the bills, and only in December 1839, he was obliged to recommend taking a loan from the banks, " because " there were no purchasers for the continued large " number of Government bills circulated." To use such an argument therefore is wrong in any one, but very reprehensible in our legislators.

The colonial revenue was at this time about £20,000. per annum, and the expenditure may be given as follows; during the first quarter of 1839 it was £8,950.; it doubled itself in the second quarter, £16,000; this more than doubled itself in the next six months, the last quarter's expenditure of 1839 being £34,000. This again doubled itself in 1840, during the last quarter of which it amounted to £60,155. 14*s.* 4*d.*, or at the rate of £240,000. per annum!

The amount of land under cultivation in 1839 was 2,500 acres; in 1840 it was 6,722 acres.

The amended Act of Parliament having given the Commissioners authority to raise temporary loans for colonial purposes from the emigration fund, this had been acted upon; by August, 1840, the amount due to this fund was upwards of £90,000.—adding to the dilemma of the Commissioners, who were expected to replace the amount by the end of the year, "the "public faith having been pledged to all persons "purchasing lands in the colony, that the whole of "the purchase-money should be sooner or later ex-"pended in emigration."* The land sales had been gradually falling off, whilst there appeared to be no prospect of the cessation of the excessive expenditure in the colony, which on the contrary was increasing.

In August, 1840, the Commissioners were forced to lay a statement of their difficulties before Lord John Russell; they state, "that if they raised a fur-

* Commissioners' despatch to Lord J. Russell, 26th of August, 1840.

" ther loan, to the limit of the sum authorised by " Parliament, it would be inadequate for the amount " required, and if the bills were refused acceptance, " no loan would be able to be effected at all."

Lord John Russell therefore determined to institute a Parliamentary inquiry into the financial state of the colony, awaiting which, no other expedient could be adopted but to refuse acceptance to Governor Gawler's bills. This was accordingly done, and Colonel Gawler himself was, on the 26th of December, 1840, recalled, the reason assigned by Lord J. Russell being " his having drawn bills in excess of " the authority received from the Commissioners."

The Commissioners state that, although compelled to " object strongly to several of Colonel " Gawler's proceedings, they acknowledge the high " character he has always borne. In his government " he displayed many qualities deserving of great " respect. He shewed in trying circumstances, both " firmness and moderation, he put an end to dis- " sension and exercised a beneficial influence over " the public mind; he appeared to be animated with " a sincere desire to improve the organization of the " public departments; but that upon subjects of " finance, it was not to be concealed he had fatally " erred in judgment."

SECTION II.

CAPTAIN GREY'S ADMINISTRATION.

THE gentleman appointed to succeed Colonel Gawler was Captain Grey, late of the 83rd Regiment. He was gazetted on the 18th of December, 1840, and arrived in the colony on the 10th of May, 1841. He is said to have attained high honours at the Military College of Sandhurst, and has further recommended himself to Government by the difficult and arduous explorations he undertook under their auspices, on the north-west coast of New Holland in the years 1837, 1838, 1839.* Captain Grey having also resided some time in South Australia, was familiar with every particular regarding the political and financial position of the colony; the ministry, therefore, once they had determined upon Colonel Gawler's recall, could not have selected a fitter person to succeed him; the result of his administration has fully justified the confidence placed in him.

When Captain Grey left England for South Australia, the financial affairs of that province had occupied the attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies so seriously, that an inquiry was determined upon, immediately on the reassembling of

* Journals of two Expeditions of Discovery in North-west and Western Australia in 1837, 8, and 9. By Capt. G. Grey, Governor of South Australia. 2 vols. 8vo. with map and numerous plates.

Parliament. Meanwhile, the most stringent orders were issued to Captain Grey that he was not to draw upon the Lords of the Treasury excepting for matters of the deepest emergency.

On the 19th of March, 1841, the House of Commons temporarily voted a sum of £155,000. towards the liquidation of bills drawn by Colonel Gawler, but for the payment of which the Commissioners had no funds.

When Captain Grey arrived in the colony in May, 1841, he found that the Government expenditure had not been as yet reduced, as he had anticipated; he found the revenue decreasing, with a balance of only £700. in the treasurer's hands —the anticipated expenditure for the quarter during which Captain Grey assumed the Government, was £32,000.—and nearly £3,000. more was due from last quarter. The claims left unsettled by Colonel Gawler, which were either immediately or shortly after Captain Grey's arrival clamorously pressed upon his notice for liquidation, amounted to near £35,000. more.

It was not possible to make any extensive reductions in the Government establishments and expenditure all at once; to make those reductions permanent, they needs must be made advisedly. The revenue decreasing, sales of land all but ceased, where were sufficient funds to come from to carry on the Government? Foreseeing these difficulties Captain Grey had asked and obtained permission

from the Government, before he left England, to dispose of those properties belonging to the Crown in the colony, which might conveniently be dispensed with. On his arrival he however found that the derangement in the money market, caused by the non-payment of Colonel Gawler's bills, had made such a step quite impossible, as not the fourth part of their value would have been obtained, owing to the depreciation in every species of property. On applying to the bank for a loan, he was offered £10,000. at 12 per cent. interest on his personal security—a sum which would have been instantly absorbed, by the heavy claims upon Government, leaving him without any means to defray the legitimate expenses of his own Administration. Captain Grey, therefore, came to the determination not to liquidate any debts contracted by Colonel Gawler's Government, until he should have heard of the result of the Parliamentary inquiry then going on, which he expected to do in a few months.

This determination once known, a deputation representing the most respectable and influential interests in the colony waited on the Governor to represent to him, "that the money had been spent "by the representative of the Queen, without their "consent or control, and that they therefore deemed "the Home Government liable for his acts; they "urged the Governor to settle those claims, to pre-"vent the distress likely to ensue from a refusal."

Captain Grey, however, refused to accede to their request.

The next difficulty, and one of no ordinary magnitude, was what to do with the many emigrants who had been employed on the Government works, which the necessary reductions in the expenditure had in a great measure suspended, thus throwing them out of employment. A pledge had been given to them by the Commissioners prior to their leaving England, that whenever they should be unable to procure employment from the settlers, it was to be presented to them at reduced wages, by the Government. Eighteen months before, the settlers might have employed them easily enough before all their funds were exhausted. During those eighteen months, labour in the country was so high, owing to the large Government expenditure, that the settlers could not profitably employ the emigrants. Now things were again altered; the settlers had been gradually impoverished, the money drained out of the colony, and when the Government works were stopped, it was found that there was no employment for them. The emigrants were indeed in no hurry to seek work out in the country; that "which had been at first conceded to them as an "indulgence they now demanded as a right."* Captain Grey describes the situation of these people as infinitely more comfortable than that of a hard-working labourer in England, adding, that "he was

* Parliamentary Papers.

"not responsible for an order of things which he "found established on his arrival, and that as the "engagements of the Commissioners had been tem- "porarily broken with all persons for want of "funds, they must necessarily be so with them "likewise."

The Governor, therefore, would not allow them to consider themselves entitled to a continuation of the same rate of wages they had been receiving before his arrival; he determined not to let them starve, but at the same time, to grant them no indulgence. He hoped by this means to induce them to find their way into the country, and to engage themselves to the settlers at a fair rate of wages, by which agricultural pursuits would be encouraged.

The Lords of the Treasury in issuing peremptory orders to Captain Grey on no account to draw on the Home Government, made an exception for certain unavoidable expenses. The Government works which he found in progress on his arrival, could of course not be left half finished, without the risk of their early dilapidation; he was therefore authorised to complete them so far as was necessary to prevent this; for which purpose he obtained a temporary loan from the New South Wales Government of £3,000.—the support of the pauper emigrants and the indispensable police establishment being defrayed by drafts on the Lords of the Treasury.

Captain Grey began his system of retrenchment

now with an unsparing hand; unmindful of the clamour it gave rise to, disregarding the unpopularity it created, he met the Legislative Council on 24th July, 1841, with the estimates he had prepared for the following year's expenditure, by which it was reduced at once from £94,000 to £34,000.*

These financial measures were greatly approved of by the Home Government, as expressed in the despatch of the Lords of the Treasury to Lord

* The following are amongst the principal reductions that were effected:—

Expenditure in	1841.	1842.
	£	£
Survey and Land Department	14,850	3,635
Emigration Department	6,927	390
Storekeeper's Department	23,748	340
Police—Mounted and Foot	16,109	9,112
Customs	9,769	2,478
Harbour Master's Department	3,944	1,612
Gaol Department	2,141	1,034
Port Lincoln	1,299	572

With a variety of minor reductions, and the abolishment of superfluous offices.

The system of supplying stores under Colonel Gawler's administration was a radically bad and extravagant one; Government officers having been in many cases allowed to supply the articles required in their departments themselves, whilst the *examination* of the accounts did not take place for two months after they had been *paid.—Vide Auditor General's Report*, p. 8, *of Parl. Papers.*

Stanley, of 26th April, 1842, in which they state that they are satisfied " of the Governor having ac- " quitted himself in an able and satisfactory man- " ner of the important trust which had been placed " in him."

To the colony at large, however, this reduction in the expenditure was for a time necessarily full of trial; it may well be likened to a young fruit tree, which had been allowed to shoot up with straggling branches of luxuriant growth, but barren of fruit. The careful gardener saw, that to make it produce fruit, it was absolutely necessary to apply the pruning knife with an unsparing, though kindly hand. Stripped of its gaudy and unprofitable branches, the spectator looked with pity and contempt upon the bare stump which was left; he not knowing the power left in the roots, thought the poor tree ruined by such rough treatment, and was inclined to think ill of the gardener for his reckless destruction of its leafy branches; but behold that self-same tree once more; the resources, concentrated in its healthy roots, in time throw forth branches as luxuriant as ever, covered with smiling blossoms and golden fruit; whilst to the gardener this result appeared as a matter of course, he now received praise for his foresight from him who at first felt inclined to censure him.

The immediate effects of this reduction was an enormous depreciation in every description of property; this was a very natural consequence. The

presence of so large an amount of capital as was constantly kept in circulation during Colonel Gawler's administration, engendered a degree of unhealthy speculation, which could not but be followed by disastrous consequences, for there was no legitimate foundation for it. Land of every description in town and country obtained a fictitious value, and changed hands over and over again, and always at a profit, but without making the land productive; whilst the value of stock rose so high, that people could not at last invest money in it, with any prospect of its producing a fair interest on the capital. To some few these changes brought much gain, and the lawyers in particular reaped a rich harvest from the rapid succession of legal conveyances of property called for.

The true state of things soon appeared. As the value of property fell, many people were necessarily losers, and bankruptcies were neither few nor far between; the labouring classes found it more and more difficult to obtain employment from the impoverished settlers; and in the latter part of 1841, we find Captain Grey with the enormous number of nearly two thousand men, women, and children, thrown upon his hands for support, as absolute paupers.*

This support could, as a matter of course, only be obtained from the mother country; the question for the Governor to consider being, whether he would

* Parliamentary Papers.

let two thousand British subjects starve, or support themselves by rapine and pillage, which they threatened to do in very intelligible language.* Adelaide was the place into which they all crowded, the population of the town having at one time reached 8,500 souls, or nearly one half of the whole population of the province. Out of many schemes proposed at this time, as to the best means of providing for the unemployed emigrants, none found so many supporters amongst the colonists as that which advised the perfecting of the Government works.†

The Governor, however, would not listen to these petitions. He stated in the despatches of that period, that to have gone on with public buildings in the town would have been unjustifiable, as all his exertions were directed to wean the people from the notion they entertained, that the Government was bound to provide for them in that way. His motive

* Parliamentary Papers.

† "The great majority of the community were interested in "the maintenance of the lavish Government expenditure. During "the twelve months preceding my arrival, about £150,000. had "been procured by drawing bills, which were ultimately paid by "the British Treasury; and had been distributed in the form of "salaries, allowances, and lucrative contracts, amongst a popu-"lation of 14,061 people, who only contributed £30,000. to-"wards their own support; that is, the British Treasury paid "annually to every man, woman, and child in South Australia, "upwards of £10. per head per annum; and if only the males "of twenty-one years and upwards are considered, more than "£32. each per annum was paid to them by Great Britain for "the support of themselves and their families."—*Governor Grey's Despatch to Lord Stanley, of 31st Dec.* 1842.

was not alone to withdraw them from the town, but in employing them to undertake only works of general and undoubted utility; he therefore, in giving them sufficient support to supply their legitimate wants, directed their labour to the opening of the great lines of internal communication, by which easy access was obtained to valuable agricultural districts. Amongst these, in addition to numerous bridges and minor roads, the Great Eastern Road, across the Mount Lofty Range, is to be particularly mentioned, by which a lasting benefit was conferred on the colony, in laying open the Mount Barker District, one of the most valuable in the colony.

Captain Grey reduced the wages of these emigrants from 1*s.* 6*d.* per diem, with rations, which they had been receiving under Colonel Gawler's administration, to 1*s.* 2*d.* per diem, without rations. It was not to be expected that this extensive reduction was to be carried out without creating great discontent amongst them. Tumultuous meetings were held, seditious language was used, on one occasion several hundred men in an organized body marched up to Government House, threatening personal violence,* and a popular outbreak was more than once anticipated, which the total absence of a military force would have made very serious. But whilst Governor Grey behaved throughout this trying period with undaunted firmness, let it not be supposed that he did not feel for the distresses the

* Parliamentary Papers.

poor people were forced to suffer. His Excellency was ever foremost in the work of charity. To his honour be it recorded, that in one year, out of his narrow official income of £1,000. per annum, he contributed near £400. towards charitable purposes; nor was it in this year alone that he liberally added his mite wherever it was wanted; it is a well known fact that real poverty and distressed merit never in vain sought relief at Governor Grey's hand.

The spirit of speculation having received so rude but salutary a check, the town gradually became relieved from its superabundant and idle population. The settlers soon perceived, that the more permanent benefits were to be derived, not from profits obtained at the expense of their less experienced and unwary fellow colonists—a system but too general in those days—but by the developement of the great natural resources of the soil of their adopted country; they began to grapple manfully with their difficulties, and the colony having been also blessed with a most bountiful and abundant harvest, the first step towards a permanent improvement was obtained by having provisions of every description cheaper than they were in the neighbouring colonies. Not alone was a stop, put from that period to the present day, to the ruinous expedient of having yearly to send large sums out of the colony to procure a supply of the necessaries of life,* but a commencement was

* In the year 1840, the immense sum of £277,000. sterling, was sent out of the colony, for the purchase of the necessaries of life.

made the following year in *exporting* those very articles; a trade which has gone on increasing ever since to a most surprising extent.

In November, 1841, Captain Grey heard from England, that Colonel Gawler's bills were in the course of payment, by means of the Parliamentary grant, voted as a temporary assistance to the colony during the session of that year. On ascertaining this fact, and consistent with the determination he came to on his arrival in the colony, looking also to the justice of the still unsatisfied claims which had arisen from the faith placed by the colonists in the representative of her Majesty, whose acts they had no right to question, Captain Grey determined to relieve the distress consequent upon the non-fulfilment of those claims, and drew upon the Lords of the Treasury for the amount which was properly substantiated by proof of being due. Governor Grey's despatch, announcing his having done so, is given at length, so that his motives for incurring a responsibility, which he was aware at the time had been the cause of his predecessor's recall, may be properly appreciated.

"*Government House,*
"*Adelaide, November* 14, 1841.

"My Lord,—I have on several occasions stated to your Lordship, that on my arrival in the colony I found that a variety of claims against the Government still remained unsatisfied, and that the late Governor had not drawn bills upon England for the payment of these accounts, having been advised by the Colonization Commissioners that no further funds remained in their hands.

"Upon the receipt of this intelligence, Colonel Gawler publicly notified his intention of drawing upon the Lords of the Treasury, in his capacity of Governor, for the purpose of defraying the current expenses of the Government; and under this expectation, storekeepers and others continued to furnish the Government with such supplies as were required. Debts were thus contracted in the broken portion of the quarter ending the 15th May to a considerable amount.

"The sum which I found due to the local creditors amounted to about £11,000., exclusive of the new gaol, for which building alone a balance of £19,000. was claimed—£13,000. having been already paid to the contractors.

"I did not, on my arrival, feel myself justified in carrying out Colonel Gawler's plan of drawing upon the British Treasury for so large an amount. A variety of reasons led me to form this determination, which are detailed at length in my despatch to your Lordship of June 5, 1841. (No. 6.) The principal of these was, that the amounts remaining unpaid were of a precisely similar character to those which were represented in England by the late Governor's bills, which the Lords of the Treasury would not pay without legislative sanction; and that until their Lordships commenced paying these bills, I should not be justified in drawing on them to obtain funds to liquidize precisely similar accounts in the colony.

"A great deal of distress necessarily resulted from the non-payment of these bills, and this was more severely felt from the limited nature of the mercantile community in this province. The situation of these Government creditors was also peculiar. They had seen the supplies, furnished by them, appropriated to the uses of the Government; they had had a pledge given to them, which neither the late Governor nor myself had yet fulfilled, and they were not even in so good a position as the holders of the bills; if they had been so, their claims would have been settled at the same time as those of the other creditors in England.

"When, therefore, I ascertained that all the bills drawn by

Colonel Gawler were in the course of payment in England, and found that had Colonel Gawler drawn bills for these precisely similar claims remaining unpaid in the colony, that then the creditors here would have been placed in the same position as those elsewhere; when also I saw the distress which the non-payment of these accounts was creating, I felt that I should be no longer justified in refraining from putting all the Government creditors upon an equal footing. I accordingly have commenced drawing drafts upon the Lords of the Treasury for the payment of these outstanding claims; and I trust that the line of policy I have pursued may meet with the approbation of her Majesty's Government.

"In order that your Lordship may be fully informed on this subject, I have enclosed copies of the letters of advice which I have forwarded to the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury. These contain detailed explanations of the nature of these outstanding claims.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "G. GREY.

"The Right Hon. Lord John Russell."

At the end of 1841, such was the activity with which the surveys had been conducted by Captain Frome, that all the claimed special surveys, thirty-five in number, 4,000 acres each, had been completed, and the quantity of land open for selection to new comers amounted, moreover, to 306,000 acres, the cost of surveying which had been reduced to 7¼*d.* per acre. Captain Frome also very handsomely consented to perform the duties of Colonial Engineer gratuitously, by which the colony was not only saved the expense hitherto attending the supervision of that department, but secured the talent of which he is very generally allowed to be possessed.

The year 1841 was also fertile in geographical discovery, Mr. Eyre having succeeded in traversing the whole coast line between Port Lincoln and King George's Sound, one of the most arduous explorations on record, during which he underwent privations, which it appears almost incredible a human being could have withstood. His undertaking reflects the greater credit on him, as he bore himself the largest proportion of the expense attending its outfit; the good of the colony, and the advancement of science in developing the geographical features of part of that vast unknown continent, having been his principal aim. The Royal Geographical Society awarded to him the Founder's Gold Medal, and it is to be hoped that a more permanent reward will be shortly bestowed upon him by her Majesty's Government, by giving him a lucrative colonial appointment; for who deserve such appointments better than those who have adventured their lives and fortunes for the benefit of the Colony, particularly where, as in Mr. Eyre's case, his personal qualifications are of a nature to do honour to any civil colonial appointment it may be in the power of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to confer upon him?

On the 5th July, 1842, Lord Stanley brought forward in the House of Commons the consideration of the affairs of South Australia, and it is to be regretted that a whole year was suffered to elapse before the recommendations of the Select Com-

mittee of the preceding year were acted upon—during which time the want of the relief now afforded caused so much distress. In introducing his three resolutions, the intimate acquaintance of Lord Stanley with the affairs of the colony enabled him to put the case in a very clear point of view. After alluding to its early history, and to the defects in the system upon which it was established, the noble Lord entered into a detail of the liabilities incurred by the colony, which may be shortly stated thus:

1. Parliamentary Grant advanced last year	£155,000
2. Bills of Col. Gawler remaining unpaid	27,290
3. Bills of Capt. Grey on account of the emigrants maintained at the public expense	17,646
4. Amount borrowed by Commissioners bearing interest at from 6 to 10 per cent.	85,800
5. Outstanding debts of Col. Gawler's Government	35,000
6. Amount borrowed from Land and Emigration Fund	84,697
Amounting in all to	£405,433

These liabilities he proposed to dispose of in the following manner. He would call upon Parliament to forego the repayment of the first sum of £155,000; would submit the expediency of making good the £27,290 for Col. Gawler's unpaid bills (2) and sanctioning the £17,646 expended by Capt.

Grey in supporting unemployed emigrants. The Bonds (4) by an understanding with the holders, would remain outstanding at an interest of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., guaranteed by the British Treasury, and for which he should propose provision out of the Consolidated Fund. The outstanding debts of Colonel Gawler and the sum due to the Land and Emigration Fund he could not now call upon Parliament to make good. The former of the two (5) he stated to be sums advanced to Government, "under a full knowledge of the peremptory orders which Col. Gawler had received, not to draw any further."* Governor Grey had however been authorized, to issue in the colony Debentures bearing interest not exceeding 5 per cent., on account of these claims. In addition he notified his intention of moving in the estimates a vote of £15,000 to carry on the Government during that year, expressing his hope and belief that with this assistance it would make sure advances to prosperity.

Lord Stanley's resolutions were agreed to by a large majority, and a Bill was immediately introduced and passed on the 15th July, 1842, entitled "An Act for the better Government of the Province of

* The noble Secretary for the Colonies was in error in stating this. A considerable portion of these claims were for contracts furnished before the prohibition to draw had arrived, but were not due till after that period; and a large sum was, at that time, stated to be owing on account of public buildings in the course of erection; the remainder being for absolute necessaries.

South Australia "of which an epitome will be found in the Appendix.

Another Act was passed on the 22nd June, 1842, and was entitled "An Act for regulating the sale of Waste Lands in the Australian Colonies and in New Zealand." * One of the principles of this colony had hitherto been, that all its lands should be disposed of at the uniform price of £1. per acre, and that all the proceeds of lands so sold should be employed in bringing out labouring emigrants to the colony; but this new Act requires that all public lands, except blocks of 20,000 acres, shall be put up to public auction at a minimum price of not less than £1. per acre, and stipulates only for the certain application of one half of the proceeds of such land sales to the purpose of emigration.†

Up to October 1842 the news of these measures did not reach the colony; the "Taglione" having sailed before the passing of the above Acts, only brought out the disastrous news of the dishonour of Captain Grey's drafts; but although she sailed six weeks after Captain Grey's bills were presented, and refused acceptance, there was not a single despatch for the Governor on board announcing this fact officially. Whilst I distinctly

* For this Land Sale Act—vide Appendix.

† Lord Stanley's despatch announcing the passing of these two Acts is dated 15th September, 1842: thus two whole months are suffered to elapse without informing the Governor of these important measures.

disclaim any intentional disrespect to the authorities of the Colonial Office in making these remarks, I have been thus particular in alluding to this want of punctuality on a subject which so deeply affected the welfare of the colony, as it illustrates the almost total impossibility there seems to exist, for the Principal and Under Secretaries of State for the Colonies, from the multifariousness of their duties, to attend to the important interests of the numerous colonies with that promptitude which their several interests require.

Not so with the unfortunate holders of those bills; they had all received the notarial protests by the "Taglione," with all the celerity usually attending upon the transmission of bad news; and Captain Grey's most unpleasant situation may be easily imagined, being without a word of explanation from the Home authorities why these bills were not paid, or instructions how to act with regard to them. He says in his despatch of 18th October, 1842, on this subject: "The disappointed claimants have not "only abused me in the most violent manner in "the public prints, and harassed me in every pos-"sible way, but they threaten me with an "appeal to your Lordship, and even with impeach-"ment. Here, therefore, I am attacked as neg-"lecting altogether the interests of the colonists "and regarding only that of the Home Govern-"ment; whilst, from the fact of my bills having "been dishonoured, I fear that I am regarded in

" England as having erred in the contrary extreme. " Whilst I am on this subject I think it of impor- " tance to call attention to the fact, that Colonel " Gawler, in contracting these debts, led the colo- " nists to understand that they would be paid by " the British Treasury; and nothing appears to " have taken place which could have led them to " suppose they would have been entailed as a " burden upon the colony."

His financial difficulties increased very materially, the banks refused to negotiate any more of his drafts, and he was obliged to have recourse to a loan from the Commissariat Chest of £1800. to carry on the Government.

On the 24th December, 1842, Governor Grey at length received Lord Stanley's despatch announcing the dishonour of his drafts in May preceding, of which the following is an extract:—

" The justification which you have urged for the course taken by you is in substance this,—that you understand that all the bills drawn by your predecessor were to be accepted and paid, and that the claims in satisfaction of which you were about to draw these bills were similar to those on account of which Governor Gawler drew his bills.

" It is true that, in order to sustain the credit of the Colonial Government, the Home Government ultimately consented to provide for the payment of all Governor Gawler's bills; but you appear to have overlooked the fact, that Governor Gawler's conduct in drawing those bills was strongly disapproved of, and that it formed one of the principal grounds of his recall. You were warned not to draw any bills without having previously

received authority to do so, and not to take any measures on your own authority for the settlement of the debt.

"On that subject the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury expressed themselves in the following terms:—

"'My Lords cannot anticipate any circumstances which should make it either necessary or advisable that the Local Government should adopt any proceedings with respect to that debt until the determination of Parliament is made known.'

"It does not appear that these bills were drawn by you on account of any exigency of the public service of the colony. All the bills drawn by Governor Gawler were attempted to be justified on this ground. Bills have likewise been drawn by you for the same reason to the extent of £16,000. which bills were duly accepted, and others may be expected of the same kind, particularly on account of the pauper emigrants.

"Her Majesty's Government are very unwillingly compelled to come to the conclusion, that the bills now under consideration ought not to be accepted. They were drawn, not only without authority, but also contrary to the express letter of your instructions. When the very liberal assistance which is proposed to be given to the colony at the expense of the mother country, and the steadily improving condition of the South Australian finances are considered, there can be no reason to doubt the ability of the Colonial Government to provide, in conformity with the arrangement which has been agreed upon between the Treasury and the Secretary of State, for the debt, in satisfaction of which these bills were drawn. Neither will the non-acceptance of the bills injure that just and necessary credit which is indispensable to enable the Colonial Government to carry on its functions. No apprehension need be entertained, for instance, of your being unable to get bills cashed for the support of the pauper emigrants, in case you should find it necessary to draw again for that purpose after the adoption of the arrangements which you have been directed to make, with a view to the diminution of the number of persons supported at the expense

of the Colonial Government, and to the equalization of the revenue and expenditure of the Government. If there were any doubt as to your being able to get bills cashed which you might find it necessary to draw for this purpose, the case might be provided for by the issue to you of instructions specifically authorizing you to draw bills for the support of the pauper emigrants.

"Her Majesty's Government are still of opinion that the assistance which it has been already proposed to afford to the colony is the utmost which can be expected from the liberality of this country, and they see nothing in the present case which should induce them to throw upon the British public expenses for which it had been determined, upon mature consideration, that the colony should be left to provide.

"It only remains to convey to you the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, respecting the line of conduct to be adopted by you upon the bills being returned to you dishonoured. The obligation of the Colonial Government originally consisted of certain unsettled claims, which it was the intention of the authorities in this country should be investigated and reported upon, and be converted, so far as they were founded upon justice, into debentures, bearing interest at five per cent., and payable at the discretion of the Colonial Government. You have now drawn bills upon the Treasury in discharge of these claims, and these bills have been dishonoured, and will be returned to you, chargeable with interest from the date at which they would have become payable, if they had been accepted. The obligation of the Colonial Government is therefore now represented by the amount of the bills, with the addition of the charge for interest from the date at which they expired.

"Under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the debentures to be issued under the previous instruction should be delivered to the holders in exchange for their bills, and should bear interest from the date at which the bills drawn by you upon the Lords Commissioners of the Trea-

sury would have become due if they had been accepted, the bills being returned to the Colonial Government by the holders previously to the delivery of the debentures. You will be furnished with a statement of the dates at which the bills shall be presented at the Treasury. * * * * * *

"In communicating to you this decision, I think it right to convey to you the assurance that, although her Majesty's Government have seen reason to disapprove of this particular proceeding, yet, in other respects, the tenor of your administration, so far as it has fallen within their cognizance, has been such as to leave unimpaired the confidence of the Government in the prudence and discretion of your measures.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "STANLEY.

"Governor Grey, &c. &c."

Lord Stanley gives no good reason for refusing to pay those bills beyond that they were drawn without special authority. He says that Captain Grey ought to have recollected, that although Colonel Gawler's bills were ultimately paid, his having drawn them was the cause of his recall. But the views expressed in Lord Stanley's despatch do not *justify* the course he pursued in refusing to place those few additional thousand pounds on the same footing as the remainder of the grant; an attentive perusal of Governor Grey's despatch clearly showing, that those claims were composed of precisely similar ones which the British Government had thought it incumbent upon themselves to pay "to support the credit of the Government". The thanks of the colonists of South Australia will always be due to

Lord Stanley for the way in which he on these occasions of the Parliamentary inquiry supported our necessities; and the statesman-like views he expressed at this and a former period, redound not a little to his honour, but unfortunately, whilst his Lordship advocated our interests this time, he acted no less unjustly to the Colony at other times. The British Parliament acknowledged the liability of the Home Government for the acts of the Representative of the Crown, by granting so large a sum as they did; the £35,000. not included in that grant, were precisely of a similar nature, in contracting which debt, Colonel Gawler led the colonists to understand that they would be paid by the British Treasury.* Why then should this sum be entailed as a burden on the colony? Lord Stanley, representing the British Government on this occasion, stands in the position of debtor to the colonists for certain sums advanced by them for the service of Government; to the greater part of these creditors his Lordship gives 20*s.* in the pound, to the remainder, whose claims are just as well substantiated (some of them, those for surveys for instance, much more legitimate) only 10*s.*, by ordering them to be paid in colonial debentures at five per cent. interest. To parties in England not conversant with the subject this may appear a very satisfactory arrangement; a very few words will, however, convince them of the contrary.

* Parliamentary Papers.

In the first place, the colonists are kept waiting for eighteen months before they get any settlement at all; their claims are then arranged by the Governor's bills on the Lords of the Treasury, to get which cashed they were obliged to pay the banks five per cent. discount. The bills are sent to England and refused acceptance; now the lawyers get hold of them; in addition to the expense for noting protest there is the charge of twenty per cent. for re-exchange, which, according to the commercial laws of the colony, every endorser of a bill on England is liable for, if that bill is not paid. The lawyers in the colony are then instructed by the banks to request an early reimbursement from the unfortunate endorsers, which they have it not in their power to do, further than by handing over the debentures bearing five per cent. interest, whilst the current rate of bank interest in the colony was then from ten to twelve per cent., and is now eight per cent. A child might guess the consequences to nine out of ten of the holders of these bills—the expenses on the returned bills being nearly half the amount of the bills themselves, are finally settled by an advertisement of the sheriff in the public papers, announcing the property of A., B., or C., for peremptory sale!

Is this way of settling the just claims of her Majesty's subjects upon the Government in consonance with English custom? Is this act of injustice worthy of a great nation? No, it is not! And

as the hardship of the case has been repeatedly brought under Lord Stanley's notice by the sufferers, he cannot plead ignorance of these facts. But the invariable answer has been:—"It is a hard case, 'tis "true, but we have already given so much, we can-"not give more." Surely, if as Lord Stanley in the above-mentioned debates stated, the country was at that time not in a fit state to grant this £30,000. and the £84,000. due to the emigration fund, he might at a subsequent period have completed the measure of his benefits to the colony by even a tardy act of common justice. Had he again come before Parliament and stated, that there was *still* a number of British subjects—far enough away, it is true, to prevent the voice of their complaint being heard—who were either entirely ruined or greatly distressed by the non-fulfilment of the engagements of the Queen's representative, over whose acts they never had any control, there might have been a little more grumbling—a few more narrow-minded men like the hon. member for Coventry, of 1842, might have possibly preferred sacrificing the political existence of an integral portion of the British Colonial Empire, by abandoning it to its fate, as he proposed to do, for the sake of a few paltry thousands,—but that spirit of seeing justice done, which is engrafted in most Englishmen's hearts, would have carried the day, all claims would have been settled, and the minister's name would have been engraved in letters of gold in the history of the colony.

It is difficult, nay, impossible to allude to these financial affairs of the colony, the most eventful period of its past history, without in some measure reflecting upon those erroneous views which led Colonel Gawler into expending sums, which he ought to have known could never have been forthcoming in England. But I am far from joining in that sweeping and wholesale abuse with which Colonel Gawler has been on all sides assailed in consequence. A few words which fell from Lord Stanley, in his speech above alluded to, go far to soften the blame he laid himself open to, which were, "That Governor Gawler, having two masters, (the "Government and the Commissioners,) received in-"structions of a very conflicting nature, which he "knew not how to execute."

During the year 1842, no less than 136 writs were passed through the sheriff's court, and 37 fiats of insolvency were issued. In one important respect the disastrous consequences of the losses sustained in the colony by the non-payment of the Government debts, had a beneficial influence; out of 1,915 houses that had been built in Adelaide, 642 were in Dec. 1842, totally deserted, from the number of people who had found their way into the country, and by their means 19,000 acres were brought under cultivation, the produce of which was estimated at £98,000. His Excellency, in his despatches, pays a high compliment to the energetic manner in which the country gentlemen were exerting themselves to

retrieve their losses, adding his regret that their means and energies were, in the first instance, so much misdirected.

In alluding to the inhabitants of the colony generally, after commending their high moral state and the great security to life and property which prevails throughout the province, he adds, "That con- "sidering the degree of political excitement which "prevailed, and the distress which his reduction "caused, their conduct must, on the whole, be re- "garded as highly creditable to themselves; and "now, looking back upon the great changes through "which they so suddenly passed, he felt rather in- "clined to extenuate than to blame any intemperate "language or conduct which some few individuals "may have been guilty of."

"Nothing contributed so much to this desirable state of things, as the fact of Governor Grey having taken upon himself the responsibility to pay the outstanding claims. Had he not paid the numerous Government creditors of all ranks of life, who were hanging about Adelaide in ex pectation of the payment of the just debts due to them by the Government, they never would have been induced to abandon the town for the country."* And the man who writes to the Home Government in this strain, is he, who was at that time, to my knowledge, made the object of the most unjust and violent attacks at larg public meetings in the colony, called ostensibly for the

* Parliamentary Papers.

insane purpose of petitioning her Majesty's Government for his recall.

By the end of 1842, a perfect system of tenders for the Government service was introduced, an Emigration and Audit Board were established, internal illicit distillation was for the first time put an end to, and the revenue thereby protected, and in all the Government offices a perfect system of regularity and efficiency was introduced. This latter was by no means an easy task, as shortly before Governor Grey's arrival, the old Government House had been burnt down, with the letters and public documents it contained, thus cutting off all his means of reference. Provisions of all sorts continued low, and the only articles which were rising in price were "ploughs and harrows;" indeed, when the harvest was ready, there was a great scarcity of hands to reap it, and so great was the emergency and the danger of losing a large portion of it, that the Governor allowed the soldiers, and all Government employés who could for the moment be dispensed with, to offer their assistance to their friends wherever it was wanted.

Governor Grey also made an arrangement this year with the South Australian Company regarding the Port Road. This road had been constructed by the Company at an expense of £13,400., under an agreement with Colonel Gawler, by which they were entitled to receive from the Government interest at the rate of twelve per cent. on the capital

expended, or else to levy a toll. Captain Grey compounded for the capital sum, by giving the Company 12,000 acres of land, to be selected out of the surveyed districts, in full of all claims on this account.

With the beginning of 1843, a pleasanter duty devolved on the Governor, namely, that of reporting to the Home Government the gradual improvement which was taking place in the aspect of the affairs of the province.

Every able-bodied man had now found employment; none but the sick and infirm were receiving the aid of Government, and inordinate speculation, that bane of the Australian colonies, had nearly ceased. The colonists, it is true, were poor, but they were fast getting out of debt, and the banks assisted wherever it was practicable, by affording liberal facilities to those who were still embarrassed. The surveys were now far in advance of the demands; tens of thousands of acres were ready for selection, and the efficiency of this and all other departments went far to prove, that the enormous reductions which had taken place, so far from impairing, had greatly increased it.

In his endeavours to raise a revenue, Governor Grey had created a great deal of dissatisfaction by the imposition of exorbitant port dues. This was certainly a bad measure, and not in consonance with the liberal and enlightened view which Captain Grey took on all subjects relating to the welfare of the

province. It could answer no purpose of revenue, as it was calculated to prevent every vessel from returning to Port Adelaide which had once incurred those charges; they were, it is true, shortly afterwards reduced, and are now finally abolished altogether; but it is a pity that Captain Grey should have resorted to this obnoxious tax, crowned, as all his measures were, with success, and tending to the advancement of the colony.

The whole of the land sales during 1843 did not comprise more than 598 acres, amounting to £613. 13*s.* 9*d.* Amongst this small quantity of land there was one section of 80 acres, on the river Light, which deserves to obtain special mention here, as it contained the first copper-mine worked in the colony, thus taking the lead in a branch of industry which bids fair to make South Australia outstrip all its competitors, in wealth and consideration.

From this time forward, Captain Grey continually urged upon the Home Government the propriety of renewing emigration, as labour began to be very much wanted, and with an increasing demand, the settlers were now put to great straits for want of farm labourers and shepherds. Lord Stanley, however, would not consent to resume emigration to South Australia, as he had no funds at his disposal for that purpose, and persisted in not recognizing the liabilities of the British Government to return the £87,000. abstracted from the emigration fund

during the monetary derangement of the colony, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Select Committee, of which he was himself a member. A partial renewal of emigration took place to New South Wales during the latter part of 1843, where it was not wanted, I myself having been in Sydney early in 1844, and witnessed the utter destitution to which the emigrants were exposed on their arrival, from want of employment.

Strange enough, South Australia benefitted by it in an indirect way, as all those who could possibly manage it, found their way down to our colony; so that in one year we obtained an increase of nearly 900 souls to our population, all able-bodied and free emigrants, without having entailed a farthing's expense on the province.

The large amounts of money abstracted from the land revenues and emigration funds to meet Colonel Gawler's unauthorized expenditure never having been refunded, is another standing subject of just complaint by the colonists against the mother country; and whilst the whole of England has for some years been heaping abuse on the United States of North America for repudiating the engagements entered into by some of the States with foreign capitalists, we have here the no less glaring case of the British Government breaking the faith solemnly pledged to the colonists by virtue of an Act of Parliament, strengthened and confirmed, as our just claims are, by the recommendation of a Select Committee of the

House of Commons,* that the amount should be made good by the British Government and applied to the legitimate purpose of emigration. The following clear statement of the case is extracted from the *Colonial Gazette*:—

"It is well known that the colony of South Australia was founded on the principle that the whole of the proceeds of the land sales should be applied to the purposes of emigration.

"By the Report of the Colonization Commissioners for South Australia, dated July 29th, 1842, it appears that the amount realised from sales of land was £277,119. 9*s*. By the blue book, entitled "Papers relative to South Australia, 1843," it appears that of this sum there had been applied to other purposes than emigration, previous to August, 1840, £56,746 14 8

"Besides various quarterly advances in the colony from the emigration fund, up to the quarter ending March, 1841 . . . 24,851 0 0

"In addition to which, it appears, by the Governor's financial returns for the year ended September 30th, 1842, that there had been received in the colony for land sold . . 5,830 3 0

£87,427 17 8

* On the 8th of March, 1841, the Select Committee, consisting of—

Sir Geo. Grey, in the chair,

Lord Howick,	Lord Eliot,
Mr. V. Smith,	Mr. Raikes Currie,
Mr. G. W. Hope,	Mr. Parker,
Lord Stanley,	Mr. G. W. Wood,
Sir W. Molesworth,	Mr. Sotheron,
Lord Mahon,	Mr. Gladstone,
Lord Fitzalan,	Captain A'Court,

resolved in the affirmative, "that provision ought to be made to repay the sum due to the Emigration fund."—*Parliamentary Papers.*

"There has thus been withdrawn, from the purpose to which the proceeds of lands sales were devoted by Act of Parliament, upwards of EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND POUNDS. As to the first sum in the above statement (£56,746. 14*s*. 8*d*), the Select Committee of the House of Commons, of which Lord Stanley and G. W. Hope, Esq., were members, declared that it should be repaid and applied to emigration—BUT NOT ONE PENNY OF IT HAS BEEN REPAID. When such a glaring violation of plighted faith occurs, plain honest men ask, what reason is assigned. It is alleged, that the original scheme on which the colony was founded has failed, that Parliament has been called upon to advance two hundred thousand pounds to relieve the colony from its financial embarrassments; and that, therefore, it is not proper "that the amount should be swelled by the payment of sums due from one branch of the service to another." This may be a very good reason, as between Downing-street and Park-street; but there is another party, and *that* the party which paid the money. Has their consent been obtained? Oh! no—it was never asked. We have had Select Committees, and Committees of the whole House, plenty of blue books on the subject, but no communication with the persons who paid the cash. Their rights have been disregarded, because the public finances of the colony became embarrassed. Is it not absolutely necessary to inquire who involved the colony in these embarrassments? Who spent the £87,000? Who is to blame? Does any portion of that blame attach to the landowners? Not a particle of it. Over the expenditure they have not the shadow of a control. Shall their rights, then, be effected by the conduct of others?

"Is the British Parliament prepared to sanction the principle, that the terms of a bargain may be altered to suit the convenience of *one* of the parties, the other being quite innocent of any act or deed affecting their rights, and refusing their assent all the time?

"We have stated the case on the broad general principle, which every part of the official documents brings out; but there is a peculiarity attaching to about £25,000. of the above amount,

which makes the case still worse. The amount was paid by parties who, at the time of purchasing the land, told the commissioners that the money was paid, not so much for the land, as for the purpose of affording poor labourers the opportunity of emigrating.

"The character of the Imperial Parliament is involved in this matter. The Colonial Minister pleads that it is not necessary that the sums due from one branch of the service to another should be paid. Does the Parliament sanction this?

"The debt is NOT due merely from one branch of the service to another: it is due by her Majesty's Government to a deserving class of her Majesty's subjects; it is due by the Imperial Parliament to a portion of their constituents. The situation of the landowners of South Australia, as creditors of the British Government, in respect to the sums appropriated to emigration, differs from the holders of Three per cent. Consols only in this—that the former are not in possession of a voucher, whilst the latter are. But shall this affect their claim for payment?"

It is no doubt at all times a disagreeable duty for the Minister of the Crown to ask the British Parliament for votes of money out of the regular course, particularly in cases where explanations of an unpleasant nature would be required. It is incomprehensible to me why it is so difficult to interest the attention of Parliament on subjects relating to the far distant colonies, until, as in the case of New Zealand, mismanagement and disasters come so thick, that the national honour is involved in the issue; then, indeed, do the halls of Westminster ring long and loud with angry discussion, and there is no lack of prompt determination to remedy

the evil at enormous sacrifice. But why always wait till things are brought to such a crisis? The British colonies, although one of the mainstays of the British Empire, have no direct voice in Parliament; is it then unreasonable to expect that at least some degree of attention may be paid to our grievances and redress given when required? We have here a body of 20,000 free British subjects, who on the faith of Acts of Parliament, leave the mother country with their fortunes and families to add new links to the chain of British dominion, already encircling half the globe; to open fresh outlets for British manufactures, for the employment of British labour, increasing the wealth and the strength of the mother country, besides affording abundant means of personal patronage to ministers themselves. The Government make laws for us which we obey, without having had the least voice in their conception; we are ruled by Governors, in whose nomination and over whose acts we have not the least control; and then, when one of these Governors plunges the colony into an ocean of debt and difficulty, the Home Government pays a portion of the debt, and tells the remaining creditors, "Oh! "you must look to the future resources of the colony "to pay the remainder; we have given already so "much, we cannot give any more," and other like reasonings. Our plains are broken up by the plough; a bountiful Providence blesses the land with

immense crops of grain, we have thousands and thousands of bushels of corn more than we require, and although a loyal offspring of the same parent stem, the mother country shuts her ports upon us, and demands from one of her provinces an import duty which forbids us to send our corn to England, whilst another province, which has waged war in open rebellion, is allowed to send its surplus produce to England duty free! By Act of Parliament, the produce of the sales of our waste lands is pledged to provide free labour to make that land available; instead of that, a large sum is squandered away for other purposes, and the Colonial Minister justifies his refusal to recommend the refunding of that sum to its original destined application, on the plea, "that it is a debt due from one branch of the service to another." At the foundation of the colony, on the strength of powers given by an Act of Parliament, the fee-simple of lands in South Australia is vested in the purchasers, without reserve, "with everything above, and everything below the surface." And have we not seen last session a bill brought into Parliament by the Colonial Minister, to reserve the lately discovered mineral resources of the colony to the Crown? to clog an important branch of colonial industry, which can only flourish when unfettered by Government interference—an attempt, which if it is persevered in this session, will again crush the rising prosperity just beginning to dawn upon the colony, will prevent British capital

finding its way to South Australia, by the sale of the land, thereby again putting a stop to emigration, without which our endeavours would be rendered nugatory? Is there a word misstated in the above? Let him gainsay me who can.

The subject of emigration on an extended and liberal scale, to all those British colonies where most desirable and necessary, is one, which is well worthy the serious attention of our greatest statesmen.* The accounts of the misery, wretchedness, and want, so prevalent in many parts of England, but particularly in Ireland, with which the papers have teemed, are fresh in the memory of every body; the enormous expense of the English workhouses, the destitution in Ireland, amongst a class of people who would be welcome to us in the colony, as the blessed dew which refreshes the earth: are these not sufficient reasons, to turn the attention of our legislators to the means of assisting these poor people to reach a land where plenty and independence will be their portion, where a beggar is unknown, a land producing food for tens of thousands, whilst there are only scores to consume it?

It is indeed to be hoped that this important subject may soon receive that attention from Par-

* Laing, in his elaborate prize essay on "The causes and remedies for the existing distress in the country," says,—"It is a subject most important and the most intimately connected with the destinies of the English nation."

liament which it deserves, and that tardy justice may be done to our colony, by appropriating as soon as possible the amount due to our emigration fund for the last three years, to furnish us with the labour so much required, and which will be sure to bring a tenfold return to Great Britain in a very short space of time.

The several valuable statistical tables contained in this volume, compiled under the authority of the Government and published officially in South Australia for general information, are a strong and undeniable commentary on the immense results attained during the period of his Excellency's administration. From the commencement of 1843, that is eighteen months after his assumption of office, a gradual, but steadily increasing improvement took place in the affairs of the colony, which has continued up to the present day without interruption, until South Australia has attained a degree of prosperity, in vain to be sought for to the same proportionate extent, in any other foreign dependency of the British Crown. Every department of the Government is in a most efficient state; the revenue of the colony exceeds the expenditure; the value of the exports, those of the imports; and the Governor has commenced paying off the debentures so unjustly entailed upon our colony by the Home Government.

In July of 1845, his Excellency thought himself

justified, from the satisfactory state of the revenue, to confer the immense boon on the colony, of abolishing the whole of the port charges on ships of all nations without exception; all the ports of South Australia are now declared free ports in the most extensive sense of the word; vessels may put in any where, without having to incur a single farthing of expense, (for even the pilots are furnished to the vessels gratis.) To the Members of Council who so cordially seconded his Excellency in passing this wise measure, the thanks of every friend of the colony are in a like manner due.*

So great a benefit was not received by the colonists without a corresponding degree of grateful acknowledgment. Under the chairmanship of the sheriff of the colony, a public meeting was held in the Supreme Court House at Adelaide, which was

* An Adelaide paper says on this subject:—

"Governor Grey stands in the proud position of being the first in the Australian colonies to follow the enlightened policy originally adopted by Sir Stamford Raffles at Singapore, and which has there proved to be so triumphantly successful. With one voice the colonists here will bless him for what he has done, and his name will go down to posterity as a benefactor of the country. To us it gives peculiar pleasure, because we have for the last three years unremittingly spoken and written in favour of some such measure. At the same time, we candidly admit, that we are completely taken by surprise; as we had not imagined that the difficulties in the way could have been so suddenly and so triumphantly overcome."

attended by every person of respectability and intelligence;—and not the least pleasing and gratifying part of the day's proceedings was, that the greatest unanimity prevailed in passing the different resolutions; the meeting having been attended even by those who had had personal differences with the Governor on matters of private business. The following address, carried by acclamation, was presented to the Governor by a deputation from the meeting:—

"To his Excellency George Grey, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's province of South Australia, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

"May it please your Excellency—

"We, the undersigned, citizens and provincial settlers of the above-mentioned British colony, approach your Excellency for the purpose of expressing our deep sense of the benefits conferred upon the colony by your able, zealous, and diligent administration of the public affairs, and more especially in spontaneously conceding the abolition of all harbour rates and port dues and charges, on the 3rd of July instant, whereby the ports of the province have not only become freely open to British commerce, but to the ships of all other friendly nations.

"Seeing the eminent success which has attended similar colonial administrative measures in other parts of the globe, particularly in the British colonies of Singapore and the Cape of Good Hope, we fully anticipate for your Excellency's recent act the entire approval and gracious confirmation of our beloved Sovereign, whilst we are firmly persuaded that, as respects the influence of your Excellency's highly popular measure of fiscal enfranchisement upon the colonial finances, the results will be fully confirmatory of the soundness of your policy.

"Blessed with a plentiful soil, a genial climate, incalculable natural abilities, with moral elements and powers, and peculiar constitutional exemptions, for which the colonists cannot be sufficiently thankful, the province of South Australia is at length fulfilling the fond predictions of its founders and friends, and will indeed become 'one of the brightest gems in the imperial diadem of Britain'—an object worthy of a pure and exalted ambition.

"Whilst we thus think and contemplate your Excellency's high position in the honourable appointment to which you have been elected by our gracious Sovereign, we would not forget the cares, anxieties, and responsibilities which are inseparable from a conscientious discharge of the functions of a Governor, or the duties of cheerful obedience and zealous co-operation, which (as far as in us lies,) we are bound to manifest towards you as the worthy delegate of sovereign power.

"We respectfully offer to your Excellency our grateful acknowledgments and hearty congratulations upon the new era which has commenced in your Excellency's administrative progress, and to assure you of our sincere desire to promote your honourable exertions, to strengthen your Excellency's hands, and zealously to co-operate in all your virtuous efforts to ensure the enduring welfare of our newly adopted and beloved country."

To which his Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

"To the Deputation who presented, and the Gentlemen who signed the address.

"Gentlemen,—I am much gratified at the proof which the address you have presented to me affords, that I have been fortunate enough, in my administration of the affairs of this Government, to succeed in carrying out to some extent her Majesty's views for the welfare and happiness of her Majesty's subjects in South Australia.

"The promotion of these objects has always been to me a source of the most anxious solicitude; and I have been encouraged to persevere in my efforts to attain them, notwithstanding the many difficulties I have had to contend against, by the confidence and approbation of her Majesty's advisers, by the warm and efficient support of my Legislative Council, and by the cordial co-operation of the various officers of my Government, to whose ability and industry I am much indebted.

"The state to which, with these advantages, I had succeeded in bringing the financial affairs of this Government, made me feel justified in proposing to the Legislative Council the abolition of all rates, dues, and charges upon shipping resorting to the harbours of this province, as well as of all wharfage rates heretofore levied upon goods landed in the province of South Australia; and I trust that the results of this measure, which I believe to be eminently calculated to foster and encourage colonial trade and enterprise, and which received the cordial and unanimous support of the Legislature, will prove as beneficial as you appear to anticipate.

"My sincere thanks are due to you for the assurance you have afforded me of your desire to co-operate with me in my efforts to ensure the permanent welfare of your newly adopted country, to promote the interests of which, and of yourselves and children, has been for some years past, and will continue to be, the constant object of my thoughts and exertions.

"G. GREY.

"*Government-House, Adelaide,*
July 25th, 1845."

The revenue derived annually from the port charges amounted to about £2,000.; the increase in the duties on certain articles to meet this deficiency is estimated at £1,270.; there will still be a present loss of £700. or £800. per annum; but, although the positive benefit of the measure will probably not appear

for some twelve months or so, until the news is sufficiently circulated, the eventual result will doubtless be, to cause an increase in the revenue instead of a loss.

This measure derives the more importance, from our colony having lately produced such large quantities of copper and lead ores, for the transport to England of which, much additional tonnage will be required, which we have now a certainty of obtaining, as vessels from the neighbouring colonies will find it answer their purpose to come to South Australia for their dead weight, prior to loading with wool.

It may not be out of place to mention here, that on the day on which his Excellency introduced the bill for abolishing the port dues, one of the members, the Honourable Jacob Hagen, stated, that a ship was in sight coming up the Gulf, and it was resolved, in order that this ship might be the first to benefit by the Act, that the Council, after having had the bill read a first and second time in the morning's sitting, should meet again in the evening, which was accordingly done, when the bill was read a third time and passed. This ship turned out to be the "Cheerful," from Manilla, with tea, sugar, &c.

At the very time that Governor Grey had thus, by this admirable and enlightened measure, gained the cordial and unanimous confirmation of the good

opinion already so generally felt for him in the colony, the Home Government had determined upon conferring upon him the honourable, though arduous task of the administration of the colony of New Zealand. The disasters which have befallen that unfortunate country are fresh in the recollection of every one; nor is it incumbent upon me to allude to them at all, excepting as it regards the severe loss it entails upon South Australia, by depriving us of our able Governor. The press has teemed with publications on the New Zealand affairs, which all go to prove, that the task imposed by her Majesty's Government on Captain Grey is as difficult a one, as has ever occurred in colonial history. In the course of the debates in Parliament in June last year, the Ministers of the Crown announced their intention of imposing the Government of New Zealand on Captain Grey, and it will be no little gratification to him, to read in the different speeches that occurred, the high opinion entertained of his abilities by those from whom praise is indeed worth having. One or two honourable members questioned the propriety of conferring so responsible a post, on a gentleman still so young in years and of inferior rank. Some even suggested that the military rank and fame of Sir Henry Pottinger should be employed in this important mission; but as they, perhaps, were not so well acquainted with Governor Grey's qualifications as

the ministry are, their difference of opinion is excusable.

I take pride in reflecting, that in that same month, June 1845, at the great annual meeting of the friends of South Australia in Freemasons' Hall, I as a colonist, expressed my firm opinion, founded on my knowledge of the man, that the British Government "could not have selected any one more "adapted to the urgent necessities of New Zealand "than Governor Grey." His Excellency will not land in New Zealand as a person to whom that line of policy, peculiar to the intercourse of Europeans with savage tribes, is unknown. I am firmly convinced that Captain Grey has intimately studied, and made himself master of the whole of the New Zealand affairs; but his is indeed an undertaking of no ordinary magnitude and difficulty; it involves not alone the adjustment of a financial, but a political state of total disorganization. The former will require all his talent as a financier, (which he has proved himself to possess in an uncommon degree,) to restore to a sound basis; the latter will doubtless call forth the exercise of other talents, which only require opportunity to shine forth. If he is young in years, he is old in wisdom, and the absence of high rank does not necessarily carry with it inaptness for the filling of high offices; for the talent of a Pitt, or Peel, required no high-sounding titles to place them at the head of British statesmen. In the prime of life, accustomed, from his travels in

Australia to bear with fatigues and harassing hardships, possessed of a spirit of unshaken firmness and determination, intimately conversant with the character of the natives of the southern hemisphere, and a thorough financier, Captain Grey—if he goes to New Zealand unshackled by any partial instructions from Home authorities, as to the line of policy circumstances may make it incumbent upon him to pursue in that colony—will retrieve the errors of his predecessors, if it is possible for any man to restore order in such a chaos of conflicting interests. From South Australia he will take with him the universal good opinion and esteem of the colonists, and the regret at losing our excellent Governor, will be lessened by the earnest hope which every good colonist will entertain, that success may attend his exertions there, as it did in South Australia, and that, whilst he will thereby be restoring the blessings of peace and prosperity to that important and ill-used colony, he will be adding laurels to his own reputation.

Captain Grey is succeeded in the Government of South Australia by Major Holt Robe, 87th Regiment, late Military Secretary at Gibraltar, who proceeded overland *via* India, in July last, and would probably arrive in Adelaide in October, when Captain Grey will immediately depart for New Zealand.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL FEATURES OF THE COLONY—AMOUNT OF AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, AND BARREN LAND—WATER—PORT LINCOLN—RIVOLI BAY.

THE fact of there being a vast Island called Australia or New Holland, a great many thousand miles distant, that it is colonized by English, and that large quantities of wool are sent home from there, is pretty generally known; but that is all. Notwithstanding that there exist a host of publications on the subject, most people in England, however well informed on other matters, appear to be quite in the dark as to the locality of the several colonies, each a kingdom in size. It is a common occurrence to hear people confounding one for the other, and mixing up New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, Swan River, Port Phillip, and South Australia, in glorious confusion; I have frequently been asked by people in England, (hearing that I came from South Australia,) after

friends of theirs, who had probably gone to another colony 1500 miles from my own locality. I was even credibly informed that one of our legislators of exalted rank, looked for South Australia, when the affairs of that colony were on the "tapis," somewhere up in Torres Straits! How to account for this lack of information, I leave to wiser heads than my own. To those of my readers who would wish to become better acquainted with the colony of which this volume is descriptive, I would in the first place recommend a glance at the accompanying map, which will at once point out to them the geographical position.

The province, or colony of South Australia, is situated on the south coast of the great continental Island of New Holland;* the Act 4 and 5 Will. IV.

* Mr. Braim, in his History of New South Wales, divides the continent of Australia into two halves, the western one he calls New Holland, the eastern New South Wales; page 6 of vol 1. he says: "South Australia comprises a part of the territory of New South Wales, but is a separate colony." This an extraordinary assertion, coming, as it does, from the head-master of Sydney College; and I am quite at a loss whence Mr. Braim has derived his authority, for this very novel geographical partition of Australia. South Australia never did form a part of the territory of New South Wales, nor has such an assertion to my knowledge ever been put forth, till Mr. Braim does so, with all the authority of the well known doctor, when he said: "nous avons tout changé cela!" South Australia is not ambitious of such a parentage. I also take the liberty of correcting another mistake of Mr. Braim's; Captain Sturt, namely, is not, and never was, the Resident Commissioner of the South Australian Company.

fixes its limits between the 26th degree of south latitude and the sea coast, and the 132nd and 141st degrees of east longitude. The area extends over 300,000 square miles, or close upon 200,000,000 acres of land, which is twice the size of Great Britain and Ireland.

Two immense inland seas or gulfs indent the coast here; Spencer's Gulf on the west, and St. Vincent's Gulf on the east; the two being separated by a long and narrow neck of land, called Yorke's Peninsula. Immediately in front, and lying across the entrance of St. Vincent's Gulf, is Kangaroo Island, a large, and generally speaking, barren island, serving as an admirable barrier to break the force of the Southern Ocean, and containing several safe and commodious harbours, into which vessels can at all times run for shelter, if necessary.

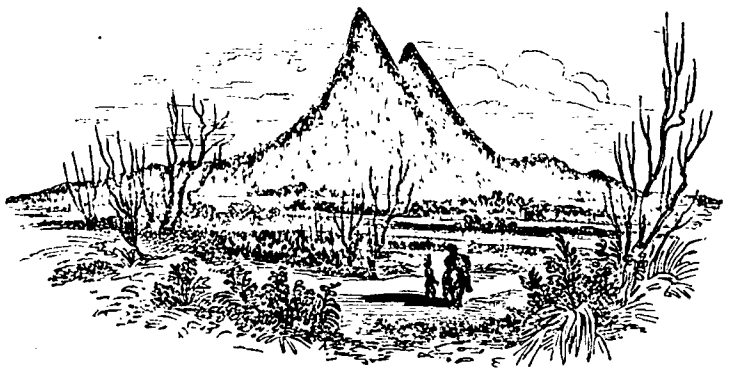
The passage into the Gulf through Investigator's Strait on the west, and Backstairs Passage on the east side, are both wide and safe; these, with the navigation of the Gulf itself, are perfectly free from hidden dangers; others, the mariner with ordinary precaution may easily guard against, and any vessel may, with the aid of the lead line, sail up the Gulf with perfect confidence even at night, till she reaches the light ship, where a pilot boards her, and takes her safely into the port.

When the first colonists arrived in St. Vincent's Gulf in 1836, the existence of a safe harbour was quite unknown; owing to the shores being

low, and overgrown with the mangrove, and a small island partially hiding the entrance to it, this harbour remained for many days undiscovered; Colonel Light and others belonging to his party, having long searched for it in vain. The very day it was discovered, the first vessel that had ever disturbed the stillness of its waters, sailed into it; since then hundreds of vessels, many of great size and draught, have proved its safety and commodiousness.

At Cape Jervis, the southern point of the colony, a range of hills abruptly rises from the shore, continuing northwards close to the east shore of the Gulf, for about forty miles; it there recedes from it to the distance of from fifteen to thirty miles, up to the thirty-fourth degree of south latitude; here one branch strikes off to the west of north until it loses itself in the sandy shores of Lake Torrens; the main line of range continues due north, rather inclined to the east; from the furthest point to which Mr. Burr followed up the range, it appeared to continue with undiminished, if not increased height, as far as he could see; and Cape York, on the north coast of New Holland, being in the line of direction, and a similar projection to what Cape Jervis is on the south, Mr. Burr is of opinion that this range runs through the whole continent, as it is contrary to the rules generally followed by nature, that the main range of a country should be suddenly chopped off in the interior. Captain Sturt's exploration, now going on, will shortly throw more light on this subject.

There are not many high peaks in any of these ranges; Mount Lofty 2334 feet, Mount Barker 2331 feet in the south; and to the north there is Mount Horrocks, 1984; the Razorback, 2922; Mount Bryant, 3012; Black Rock Hill, 2750 feet; Mount Arden, Mount Brown, and Mount Victor.



Mount Victor.

The general feature of these ranges, are moderately high and steep hills, mostly covered with different kinds of timber, and in parts thickly wooded, in others more bare; they are throughout, excepting the tops of the ridges, which are always rocky, (the soil having been gradually washed away by the rains,) covered with verdant sward, affording abundant and very nutritious pasturage to our herds and flocks. The geological formation of the ranges, and the qualities of the soil, will be particularized in following chapters.

South Australia abounds in beautiful park-like scenery; the groups of trees planted by the hand of

nature assume in hundreds of places, and for many acres in extent, a degree of elegant landscape arrangement, not to be exceeded by art; it is true, our trees are not to be compared to the king of the forest, or the many species of noble trees grown in England; but, excepting in the densely wooded forests, where their growth has been impeded by poor soil, the gum-tree (Eucalyptus) often rears his head proudly to the skies, and stretches forth gigantic arms from a powerful trunk; the she-oak tree, (casuarina) with its drooping branches and thread-like leaves, is not without elegance, and the beauty of the many tribes of acacias and other flowering shrubs, with which the country teems, has never been denied. The Mount Lofty range of hills, immediately behind Adelaide, is covered with the stringy bark-tree, a most useful description of wood, which forests furnish us with an unlimited supply of wood for building, and the other thousand-and-one purposes of the settler.

These, with the common pine, form the principal components of our forests. Whilst we have abundance of wood for our different uses, a peculiar and highly favourable feature in our province is the immense quantity of land, of excellent soil, ready for the plough, without the ruinous expense of previous clearance so common in the neighbouring colonies, and especially in New Zealand, where the land frequently costs £50 and £60 per acre to remove the immense trees, and then even not extirpating the mischievous

fern-root, from which we are quite free in South Australia.

As far as the colony has been surveyed and explored by parties competent to form an opinion, the whole of the land may be divided into three divisions; one-third good open agricultural and pastural land, one-third wooded ranges, available for pasturage, and the remainder scrub and rocks; but the experience of the last few years has shewn us that this scrub bids fair to turn out the most valuable of any other part of the colony, all the rich mines having been discovered in precisely that sort of ground, described as rocky and scrubby.

Water we have sufficient for all our uses, as well as for the immense herds and flocks that already cover the country; it is true we have not any navigable rivers except the Murray, the entrance to which is obstructed by a dangerous bar; but the absence of navigable rivers, does not in the least affect the prospects of South Australia becoming eventually a great and densely-populated country, as we have a good substitute in the favourable and accessible nature of the country, the ground affording good natural roads without any previous labour or expense having been bestowed upon it; indeed, if you don't mind a little jolting, you may in your gig, drive from north to south through the province, without meeting with any unsurmountable natural obstructions of hills or creeks.

For about five months in the year all our creeks,

"rivers," *par excellence*, are running with delicious water; after the rainy season is over, the natural ponds, formed in the beds of the rivers and creeks, afford a never-failing and abundant supply; and with few exceptions, you may always rely on getting water by sinking wells, at from 20 to 100 feet, in many places under 20 feet. In some parts of the colony the water has, to the new comer, a rather disagreeable and slightly brackish taste, owing to the aluminous nature of the subsoil; it is, however, a well established fact, that there is nothing unwholesome in this; indeed, I have myself become so accustomed to the taste of it, that after a lengthened stay in the country, upon returning to Adelaide, I almost preferred the slightly brackish water I had been drinking in the country, to the fresh spring water out of the Torrens. Cattle and sheep thrive amazingly on this water, and are very fond of it.

These water holes or ponds, so common throughout Australia, are of very curious formation, and much speculation has been hazarded as to their origin; the simple fact of many of them being in the actual bed of creeks and rivers does not satisfactorily account for their great depth; as many of them never diminish very much, even during the height of summer, one would be led to suppose that they must be supplied from below by powerful springs, and those, who are in the habit of bathing in them, are aware, what a great difference there exists in the temperature of the water in different

parts of the same pond. The sides of these ponds are generally also very steep, and often undermined by the water; horses and cattle are continually falling in, by the banks giving way, and we have ourselves lost many valuable horses in this manner, at our stations on the Light.

The districts to the south of Adelaide, comprising valuable agricultural, and well watered land of the richest description, may be enumerated as follows.

The valley of Encounter Bay in the far south: —here, as well as on different headlands round by Cape Jervis, several whale fisheries are also established; they fish for four months during the winter season, and procure on an average about 150 tons of black oil and whalebone, put down in the Customs returns last year, at a value of £4500, but I believe this season the produce has been far greater.— Contiguous to Encounter Bay, on the east, are extensive sheep and cattle runs, along the shores of Lake Victoria and up the west bank of the river Murray for 100 miles; many parts of the shores of this lake are composed of rich land, and strips of alluvial soil are of frequent occurrence along the banks of the river, but little progress has been made in settling here, owing to the interjacent barren scrub, which separates the river from the settled portion of the colony.

Close to Cape Jervis, are the rich valleys of Rapid and Aldinga Bays and Yankalilla, abounding in rich land and beautiful scenery. At Rapid Bay

extensive lodes of copper and lead have also been discovered. Next comes, further north, the township of Willunga, picturesquely situated on a gentle slope looking towards the Gulf—and beyond that you reach the river Oncaparinga, with the township of Noarlunga, containing a large steam flour mill, and a bridge of 100 feet span; the river is navigable for small craft close to the township; several veins of copper have been discovered in this neighbourhood. Crossing O'Halloran's Hill, you descend upon the Adelaide Plains, which, keeping the range of hills on the eastward, extend northward in unbroken level for near 40 miles, large portions of which are already fenced in and broken up.

To the north-east of Adelaide the rich valleys of the Torrens, North and South Para, rivers, bring you to the districts of Lynedoch valley and the Barossa ranges, which, with the luxuriant Angas Park, the property, I might say the principality, of George Fife Angas, Esq., one of the earliest and most constant friends of the colony, are unsurpassed by any land in the colony. I here give an extract from a letter written to Mr. Angas by a gentleman, who describes his first impressions on seeing this part of the country, soon after his arrival:

"We were naturally very anxious to get to the Barossa, and to see the surveys we had heard so much about, and we had not landed many hours, before we were on our way to them; we passed over the Adelaide, Para, and Gawler plains, on our way thither; they are of immense extent, in some places a plough

might be driven twelve or fourteen miles without a single obstruction, and the quality of the land equal to the best we saw at the Swan. We passed large tracts of corn looking exceedingly well; in some cases we passed blocks of corn covering an area of 5 or 600 acres, and looking as fine as any I had ever seen in England. We reached Gawler Town, a distance of twenty-five miles from Adelaide, just after dark, and the next morning continued our journey. The country became increasingly beautiful every mile we rode, and we soon caught a glimpse in the distance of the Barossa Range. The first surveyed land was that in the neighbourhood of Bethany; we felt strangely excited as we neared it, and when it was pointed out to us we gave utterance to our feelings. We then rode on in silence till the village of Bethany opened to us, the Germans flocked out to see and welcome us, we could not stay with them long, and pressed on; every mile was more and more beautiful, and the loveliness and richness of both soil and scenery increased till we reached the termination of our journey, Salem Valley, or, as it is called by the natives, Farwerta. Our highest expectations had been not only abundantly realized, but they fell far short of the reality. Here we are, in the midst of an immense district, almost fresh from its Maker's hands; man had scarcely interfered with it; and yet in beauty, and fertility, and grandeur, it exceeds anything I have ever seen even in our own lovely isle. I have thought on every spot in England that I am acquainted with, in order to assist me in describing the property here to you—that at Chatsworth comes nearest to it, it is the most extensive and beautiful of any domain I have seen in England."

A rich lode of copper has been discovered on Mr. Angas's land, which is now being actively explored.

Issuing from the wood of Angas Park and Flaxman's Valley, one road strikes off to the eastward to the Murray; the road to the north-west leads

you past Captain Bagot's country residence, Koonunga, to the Light River; undulating hills, with here and there patches of open forest, diversify the scene; in addition to the thousands of acres of rich virgin soil, tempting the plough, the Light has now become celebrated for the rich copper mines situated on it. Indeed, looking to the comparatively insignificant extent of ground already yielding such large quantities of grain for export, as compared with the extent of the best land in every direction not yet touched, it would be difficult, with the utmost stretch of the imagination, to place any limit to the extent of food, whether for home consumption or export, which might be produced in South Australia.

Numerous branch valleys strike off from the main valley of the Light on each side, to the fertility of which I can myself speak, having lived the greatest part of the time at Anlaby under Mount Waterloo.

On the Light River, and from thence northwards, the cultivation of the soil is not carried on, excepting by those settlers, who grow corn for their own consumption; here also the "bush" may be said to commence, as all the country to the north, taking in the Wakefield, Hill, Broughton, and Hutt Rivers, Crystal Brook, &c. as far north as Mount Arden, is occupied by sheep and cattle farmers; in all which districts there is no lack of the best soil: indeed it would appear invidious to

particularize any one district more than another, as they all more or less possess like advantages. In most of the above districts, land already surveyed, is open for selection to the newly arrived emigrant.

The following is the division of the province into counties, beginning in the north: Stanley, Light, Eyre, Gawler, Adelaide, Sturt, Hindmarsh, and Russell.

On the west coast of Spencer's Gulf, is the settlement of Port Lincoln; but, owing to many fortuitous circumstances, and the limited extent of good back country, it has dragged on a precarious existence, whilst the other parts of the colony have been prospering. It possesses a magnificent harbour, perhaps one of the finest in the world, and I believe there is also no lack of good rich country immediately round the township; probably by and bye, it will again come into favour; just now it can hardly be said to be in existence, the Government establishment having been once or twice on the point of being withdrawn. The blacks being very hostile here, it would require a greater police force than the Government have at present at their disposal, to protect the settlers far from the coast; those who first settled there having been fairly driven out of it.

Mr Eyre, who has traversed the country here in all directions, knows it well; he says of it:—

"The great mass of the Port Lincoln Peninsula "is barren, arid and worthless; and although it

" possesses a beautiful secure and capacious harbour, " with a convenient and pretty site for a town, and " immediately contiguous to which there exists some " extent of fine fertile soil, with several good grassy " patches of country beyond, yet it can never be- " come a large and important place in consequence " of its complete isolation, except by water, from " every other, and the limited nature of its own " resources. * * * * Purchased " in the days of wild and foolish speculation, and " when a rage existed for buying land and laying " out townships, no place has been more misrepre- " sented and misunderstood than Port Lincoln. * * " * * * The day of hallucination has " now passed away, but out of the reaction which " has succeeded it, has arisen a disposition to deprive " Port Lincoln of even the merits to which it really " has a legitimate claim, and which would have been " far more highly appreciated, if the previous " misstatements and consequent disappointments had " not induced a feeling of suspicion and distrust not " easily effaced."

And this was the place where the capital of the Province, in the opinion of an interested few, ought to have been fixed by Colonel Light; and for differing in opinion from which, he met with such bitter hostility. Mr. Eyre says rightly, that Port Lincoln has suffered from none more, than the misstatements of those who ascribe to it advantages that it does not possess. Nevertheless, hereafter more

prosperous days may dawn upon that district, as there is, withal, sufficient agricultural land of the richest quality to grow food for a large population; which population will not be long finding its way there if the reported, but not yet verified, mineral discoveries, are substantiated. Specimens of grey sulphuret of copper have been exhibited, as found within half a mile of the township.

To the westward of Port Lincoln, an inhospitable barren country extends to King George's Sound; the whole of which was, as already stated, traversed by my friend Mr. Eyre.

To the northward and westward of Port Lincoln, there is a moderate extent of good grassy land, discovered by Mr. Darke, who unfortunately lost his life by the natives whilst engaged in exploring it.

It is a very common thing amongst the settlers,—not alone in South Australia, but also in other Australian colonies,—to make strangers believe that there is not an inch of room unoccupied anywhere; somehow or other, however, more and more country is, notwithstanding, continually being made available, as the settlers require an extension of room for the increase of their flocks and herds; in this way the country north of Messrs. Hawker's station, which was the out-station when I first went to South Australia, was successively occupied by Messrs. J. B. Hughes and brothers, by the Messrs. White, Jacob, and others; and latterly a most extensive and splendid district has been thrown open, in the south-

eastern part of the colony, the neighbourhood of Rivoli Bay, three hundred miles from Adelaide, to which many thousand sheep have already been removed, and more are constantly following.

Rivoli Bay lies in the almost direct line of communication with Port Phillip, via Portland Bay. Governor Grey, ever watchful of anything which may prove conducive to the prosperity of the colony, has lately expressed his determination to form a township there, and also to establish a fortnightly mail to Portland Bay, by the police; which, in addition to the importance of a postal communication with the flourishing Port Phillip Settlement, will have the effect, by the constant passing and repassing of the police, to make the overland route perfectly safe for the many emigrants who arrive now on that line of road from the neighbouring colonies.

In the early part of 1844, the Governor proceeded in person to this district to explore it, and ascertain its capabilities; the following despatch, giving a condensed account of the results, will be read with interest.

Governor Grey's Letter to Lord Stanley.

Adelaide, June 22, 1844.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report, that towards the end of the month of April last, I left Adelaide for the purpose of exploring the south-eastern portions of this province, which abut upon the territory of New South Wales.

This part of South Australia has been hitherto almost unknown,


139
140
141
35
36
37
38
Mt Lofty
Mt Barker
R. Murray
Upper Crossing Pl.
Harriot's Sheep St.
Todd's St.
Wellington
THE
RIVOLI BAY
DISTRICT.
L. Victoria
L. Albert
Giles' St. or Bonney's Wells
Desert
Water
ENCOUNTER BAY
Salt Cr.
Mundoo Island
Overland Track to Port Phillip
C. Morard de Galles
Granite Rock
Lacepede Bay
Ross Creek
C. Bernouilli
M. Benson
Guichen Bay
C. Dombey
L. Eliza
C. Rabelais
L. George
C. Martin
Penguin I.
Rivoli Bay
L. Frome
Mt Muirhead
Mt Burr
L. Bonney
West Cape Banks
Mt Gambier
Mt Schanck
C. Bourlier
C. Northumberland
Discovery Bay
Glenelg R.

having been only traversed in one direction by overland parties; and as the line of route which they had always pursued, passed through a country for the most part of a very unpromising character, it was very generally imagined that the south-eastern portions of the province offered little inducement to settlers, and that there was little probability of any continuous line of settlements being established between South Australia and New South Wales.

I hoped, however, that a minute examination of this country, and more especially of those portions of it which were yet unknown, might shew that these impressions were without foundation; and in order that the exploration which I was about to undertake might be rendered as effective as possible, I took with me Mr. Bonney (the Commissioner of Public Lands,) a gentleman of much enterprise and ability, and who was the original discoverer of the overland route from Port Phillip to South Australia; and also the Deputy Surveyor-General, Mr. Burr, with whose knowledge of the bush, and talent for surveying and exploring, I was well acquainted. I am happy to be able to assure your Lordship that the results of our journey were of the most satisfactory nature; and that we ascertained that by keeping near the sea coast, instead of pursuing the line of route previously adopted, there is an almost uninterrupted tract of good country between the rivers Murray and Glenelg. In some places this line of good country thins off to a narrow belt; but in other portions of the route it widens out to a very considerable extent, and on approaching the boundaries of New South Wales it forms one of the most extensive and continuous tracts of good country which is known to exist within the limits of South Australia.

One peculiarity of the good country near the south-eastern boundary is, that it is of recent volcanic origin, and that there is every reason to suppose that some of the numerous craters with which it abounds must very recently have been in a state of action. The accompanying map of the newly-explored country, executed by Deputy Surveyor-General Burr, contains plans and elevations of two volcanic mountains, which convey a very good

idea of the character of these hills; and the enclosed sketch by Mr. G. F. Angas, a young artist who accompanied me, represents very faithfully one of the most remarkable of another species of crater, which are very numerous in this country, and which are filled with fresh water, and are almost unfathomable. The water in the one represented in this drawing was 103 feet deep close to the edge of the crater.

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. . .

The south-eastern portion of the province of South Australia has now been ascertained to be at least as fertile as any other known portions of that colony; and the excellence and great extent of the good land in that portion of the province, the whole of which belongs to the Crown, affords a guarantee that the fund arising from the sale of land, and consequently the means of defraying the expenses of emigration, will increase for a considerable number of years to come, with the increase of the population; and nearly the whole of this country being unoccupied, a large outlet yet exists for the rapidly-increasing flocks and herds of the colonists. These circumstances cannot fail to produce most advantageous results, both for the inhabitants of this colony, and for the commercial interests of the mother country.

Another material point connected with the fertile tracts of land in the south-eastern part of South Australia is that this good country lies in the immediate neighbourhood of the sea, and that this part of the coast contains three bays, one of which has been ascertained to afford good anchorage to small vessels, even in the winter season, and there is good reason to suppose that the other two bays, more especially Lacépède Bay, will be found to possess the same advantage.

The inhabitants of the country which has now been explored, will therefore be able with great facility to ship their produce to, and to receive their supplies from, the adjacent ports, either in New South Wales or South Australia.

As this country lies immediately between New South Wales and South Australia, and forms an almost continuous link of good

country between the rivers Murray and Glenelg, and can, in its natural state, be traversed in nearly all directions by drays and carts without the slightest difficulty, there can be but little doubt that in the course of the next few years an uninterrupted line of settlements will exist between Adelaide and Port Phillip: indeed, the squatters from New South Wales have already begun to occupy the most extreme south-eastern portion of this new country with sheep and cattle stations.

During our journey we had an opportunity of visiting Rivoli Bay, which is one of the bays to which I have before alluded, and which had previously been only seen from a distance. I formed our depôt at this bay, and proceeded with a detached party to the S.E.; and during my absence a survey of the greater portion of the bay was made by some men of the Royal Sappers and Miners; and the master of a whaling vessel, which was lying there at anchor, having lent his boats for the purpose, soundings were obtained both across the entrance to the bay, and over that portion of it which affords the best anchorage.

I thus have it in my power to enclose a chart of a considerable portion of the bay; and I have also forwarded an outline sketch of Rivoli Bay, which was made by Mr. G. F. Angas.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

P.S.—Since writing this despatch I have received another very interesting sketch, which I have forwarded for your Lordship's information. It gives an outline of Mount Schanck, which is the mere elevated shell of an extinct crater; and it shows, in the foreground, another of the extinct craters full of fresh water, which are found in the coral formations.

(Signed) G. GREY.

To make the information on this district as complete as possible, I give the following additional

particulars from the pen of an experienced colonist, in search of sheep runs :—

"I am quite persuaded that the finest land the Government has at its disposal is to be found in the immediate vicinity of Mount Gambier; the greater part of it, however, is heavily timbered. For a few miles round the mountain, I consider the quality of the soil equal to any land in the province: on the upland districts, for many miles round, however, no water is to be found, except in the craters of the extinct volcanoes and in caves. We discovered three of these caves during the week I was there, in which we found beautiful water, and where we immediately planted three double sheep stations.

"These caves are of most extraordinary formation: at the entrance they appear like the burrow of the wombat, and can only be entered by creeping in upon the hands and knees. One of them looked like a small well: but upon inspecting it more minutely we found ourselves on the crown of the arch of a large cave, of such dimensions that we could not see the sides of it: and on throwing down a stone it plunged into deep water. From these reservoirs we can, no doubt, obtain a supply equal to all our wants. Mount Gambier is, in fact, the greatest natural curiosity I ever beheld.

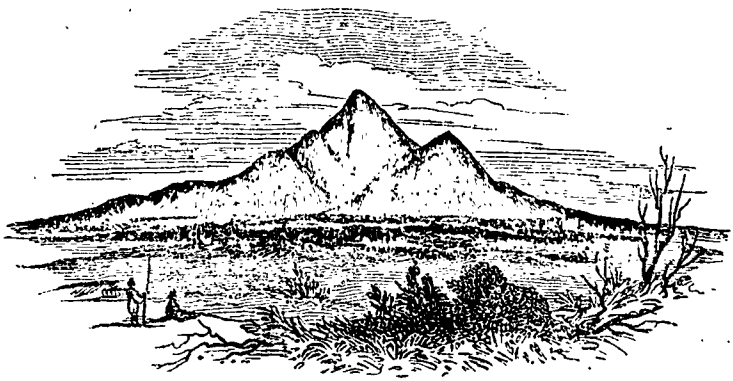
"In the lowlands of this district, and nearer to Rivoli Bay, water is everywhere to be found in the tea-tree swamps (always regarded as an indication that water is near) which are very numerous and extensive. I consider there are some thousands of acres of land on which the tea-tree is found. In the middle of one of these swamps we discovered a small stream of running water, which must be perpetual, as it was in the latter end of April when I saw it, and before any rains had fallen, after the summer drought.

"During the winter months, these lowlands will be unfit for pasturage; but in the neighbourhood there are some good feeding hills adjoining Lake Bonney, which, with the high lands near Mount Gambier, will provide a healthy retreat for large

flocks during the wet season; there is, besides, an ample supply of excellent water for the purpose of sheep shearing.

"Mr. Henty's run at Mount Gambier will, I expect, soon be sold, as the place cannot but draw the attention of parties wishing to purchase land in this province."

The harbour of Rivoli Bay has been surveyed, and soundings taken which prove it to be quite as, if not more safe than Portland Bay; vessels of a draught not exceeding ten feet, can ride out any gales there with safety.



Black Rock Hill.

CHAPTER II.

CLIMATE — SEASONS — ABSENCE OF DISEASES, — TABLES OF TEMPERATURE, RAIN-GUAGE, AND PREVALENCE OF WINDS —SUDDEN CHANGES IN THE TEMPERATURE—CLOUDS OF DUST—BRILLIANCY OF AUSTRALIAN SKY—SHARP BRACING AIR OF WINTER.

THE climate of South Australia is exceedingly good; all the Australian colonies possess this immense advantage, and where all are good, it would be unfair to claim exclusive preference for ours. Still, in one respect, South Australia possesses from its geographical situation, an advantage, and one of great magnitude. Situated on the south coast of New Holland, we have the benefit of the whole indraught of the south-west winds which prevail, as shewn by the tables further on, for one third part of the year; these winds are always cool and very generally accompanied by rain. An experience of ten years has proved, that this part of the continent is not subjected to those periodical droughts, which make agricultural and pastoral pursuits in a great measure attended with risk in New South Wales; we have no periods in which the corn is not brought to maturity; neither are we on the other hand subjected to the incessant wet and rain of New Zealand, where, to use the words of a man now in my

employ in South Australia, who lived there for some years, "it rained for six days in the week, and was bad weather the seventh."

The medical profession is, generally speaking, an unprofitable one; there are no endemic diseases, fevers or agues; the dry, warm and elastic atmosphere is, besides, peculiarly favourable to asthmatic and pulmonary complaints; I have myself known cases where the early stages of these diseases have been removed, and in many others great and permanent relief afforded, where the disease was too deeply rooted for a radical cure; people, who, before they left England, were for years in a debilitated state of health, some, that were actually given over as hopeless cases, have on arriving in South Australia taken out an entirely "new lease," and are now as hearty, hale, and strong, as they could wish, able to undergo fatigues of all sorts, and exposure to heat, cold, and "bushing it" under a gum tree, with a saddle for a pillow, without the least inconvenience.

The following testimony to the salubrity of our climate is from our colonial surgeon, and is the result of seven years experience:

"I have much pleasure in being able to state, as the result of nearly seven years' experience, that there is not a more healthy climate in the world than that of South Australia. We are without any endemic diseases. We have no marsh miasma, consequently escape those dreadful remittent and intermittent fevers so prevalent in India and China. Our being free from all palu-

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dial disease does not render us the more liable to suffer from phthisis, as there are but few cases to be met with in the province.

"Dysentery has also become a rare disease, although prevalent in the early days of the colony. Most of the cases which occurred were of a scorbutic character, and were to be attributed to other causes than that of drinking the water of the Torrens, as was at one time erroneously supposed. The sudden changes of temperature during the very cold spring we have had, have rather produced slight affections of the air passages, than any disease of the alimentary canal.

"I consider the water of the Torrens good, and the water of most of our wells remarkably so. Our air is pure, our atmosphere clear. We have all the meats, fruits and vegetables to be obtained at home; and if our days are warm, our nights, with very few exceptions, are cool and bracing; and if Europeans would only make that slight difference in dress and diet the difference of latitude requires, there is not a country in the world where they would be more likely to enjoy good health, than in South Australia."

In South Australia, you can go to church without being afraid of every word of the sermon being drowned, or overwhelmed, by a chorus of coughs, as it is in England during the winter, which the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie compares to "Rachel mourning for her children and refusing to be comforted." You need not fear the night air, or night dews, and no unwholesome exhalations rise from the ground. The average of the mortality for the last five years in the colony is less than one per cent., whilst the mortality of England and Wales is not less than 2.13 per cent. Our seasons, rightly speaking, might be

classed as follows, in comparison with the four seasons of Europe and America :—

European seasons.	*Australian seasons.*
Autumn and Winter.	Spring.
Spring and Summer.	Summer.

Our climate is a continued succession of spring and summer, for although one part of the year is called winter, it is only so in name, because we have not yet discovered an appropriate word to substitute for it; suffice it to say, that our so-called winter is without frost* or snow, that it clothes the country with a verdant and flowery sward and the trees with foliage, delighting at once both man and beast; the rain which falls during this season germinates the seed, which the farmer has sown, into green and luxuriant growth; winter is the season when the young lambs, calves, and foals, gain strength from the tender and nutritious grass which springs up in every description, whilst the wool of the sheep is matured in growth; it is in the depths of *our* winter, you are forcibly reminded of the inclement nature of those months which bear that name in the mother country, from which you have escaped; and, when you unconsciously revert in thought to the thousands of your fellow creatures at home, who feel the cold, and have not wherewith to keep it off, whose presence would be so welcome to us in the colony.

* I did *once* see ice of the thickness of a halfpenny piece, at daylight, which vanished as soon as the sun peeped over the hills.

From the middle of May to the beginning of October we may reckon on a sure and copious supply of rain; the following tables give the average quantity which usually falls, as well as the temperature in the different months of the year, and the prevailing winds.

ABSTRACT OF RAIN GUAGE FOR 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, AND 1844,

Kept at West-terrace, by G. S. Kingston, Esq.

MONTHS.	1838.		1839.		1840.		1841.		1842.		1843.		1844.		Mean average for each month.	
	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	Days.
Jan. . .	No observation		.453	7	.335	3	.45	2	.37	4	0.21	3	0.41	6	0 372	4
Feb. . .			.446	3	2.01	5	.35	3	.71	4	0.54	4	0.175	4	0.705	4
March			.85	6	.437	7	.81	4	1.015	4	0.59	4	0.74	6	0.78	5
April			.37	5	1.202	10	3.57	12	1.808	10	1.05	6	1.68	16	1.624	10
May .			.24	5	1.487	7	1.71	8	2.05	13	2.98	10	1.845	19	1.719	10
June . .			3.49	10	3.274	11	2.32	7	2.401	13	1.72	13	1.138	9	2.387	11
July . .			2.128	12	1.90	8	.857	10	2.09	14	3.307	20	3.685	19	2.313	14
Aug. . .	1.649	6	4.767	16	2.829	16	2.813	15	2.77	17	2.160	15	2.115	17	2.729	15
Sept. . .	.438	6	.85	10	4.64	16	2.045	10	1.931	9	1.085	12	2.34	16	1.904	11
Oct. . .	2.353	10	2.57	9	1.9	6	.94	6	2.733	19	1.66	12	1.045	9	1.886	10
Nov. . .	.82	3	3.31	14	.19	4	.47	6	1.19	8	0.20	3			1.03	6
Dec. . .	1.65	3	.345	5	3.82	6	1.71	10	1.35	4	1.70	3			1.762	5
			19.840	102	28.997	99	18.045	93	20.418	119	17.212	105				

Mean yearly average, 19.902.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN AT THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, VICTORIA SQUARE, ADELAIDE,

DURING ONE YEAR, FROM APRIL, 1844, TO MARCH, 1845, BOTH INCLUSIVE, AT THE HOURS OF 10 A.M., 12 A.M., 2 P.M., AND 4 P.M., OF EACH DAY, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.

1844	Mean.		Highest.		Lowest.			Mean.		Highest.		Lowest.	
April	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.	October	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.
o'clock							o'clock						
10	63¾		81½		53½		10	66½	29.94	86½	30.22	55	29.60
12	65⅝		86		53½		12	68½		92		56	
2	67½		85		55½		2	68½		94½		55	
4	64 5/10		82		54		4	69	29.87	96½	30.20	53½	29.
May							Nov.						
o'clock							o'clock						
10	60		73		46		10	70¾	29.88	88	30.20	62	29.56
12	63		75		49		12	73¾		92		63	
2	62½		76		53		2	73¾		93½		59	
4	60		74½		50		4	71⅜	29.86	92	30.20	60	29.51
June							Dec.						
o'clock							o'clock						
10	55		65		47½		10	80¼	29.876	99	30.220	70½	28.380
12	58		68		49		12	82		103		67½	
2	58		67		49		2	83½		100		68	
4	56½		63		49½		4	82¼	29.895	100	30.160	67	29.460
July							Jan. 1845						
o'clock							o'clock						
10	54¼		59		48		10	83½	29.835	102½	30.085	70	29.520
12	54		60		48		12	85		106		70	
2	55½		60½		49½		2	85		106½		70	
4	53¼		58½		49		4	84¼	29.802	101½	30.000	71	29.450
Aug.							Feb.						
o'clock						...	o'clock						
10	57	29.82	63	30.29	53	29.51	10	78¾	29.796	94½	30.120	70½	26.615
12	58½		67		53		12	79¾		97		70	
2	59½		68		52		2	79½		94		71	
4	57½	29.70	61½	30.20	53	29.33	4	79	29.839	97½	30.020	70½	29.520
Sept.							March						
o'clock							o'clock						
10	59	29.89	66	30.23	53½	29.12	10	77¾	29.987	97	30.175	66½	29.080
12	60½		69		54½		12	80¾		102		69½	
2	61¾		72½		55½		2	77¼		103½		68½	
4	60	29.80	72	30.16	53½	29.	4	79	29.970	100	30,165	68	29.730

TABLE

Shewing the direction and force of the Winds during one year.

Month	N	S.	E.	W	N. E.	S. E.	N. W	S.W.	Vble	Clm.	Strong	Moderate.	Light.
Dec.	43	2		1		1	1	17	9			12	19
Jan.	44	5	2	2		5		8	9		4	14	13
Feb.		9			3	1	1	11	4		1	15	13
March	1	1		1	1	1	2	19	5		1	11	19
April	1	1		5	1		2	10	7	3	4	5	18
May	5	1		3	4		5	5	5	3	1	5	22
June.	4		2	3	4		3	7	4	3	5	6	16
July	3		1		5	1	6	8	2	5	2	1	13
Aug.	5			2	6		5	6	5	2	3	15	21
Sept.	2			4	5	2	2	9	4	2	7	5	16
Oct.	3	2			1	1	3	10	8	3	4	7	17
Nov.		3	1	2	2		4	13	3	2	2	10	16
	24	24	6	23	32	12	34	123	65	23	34	106	203

On those days in the column marked variable, the winds generally blew in land and sea breezes, coming away from N. E. in the morning, and veering to N., N. W., W. and S. as the day advanced. In the settled weather, indeed, the wind blows in this manner throughout the whole summer; and on many days marked in the column S. W. the wind was from the land during the night, and until some time after sunrise. These observations having been made during the day-time alone, do not show the prevalence of the land and sea breezes.

From October the weather gradually becomes warmer until February, which is reckoned the hottest month; with the beginning of March commences a season, which for mild and balmy sweetness cannot be surpassed, the heavy rains being looked for as above stated early in May.

Our summer months, December, January and February are hot—there is no denying this; now

and then we have a few days, when you would almost fancy yourself melting away; but this never lasts long, it is the sure forerunner of a pleasant change, and we patiently endure an atmosphere of 96° to 98° in the shade, knowing as we do, that a few hours will bring on a thunderstorm or south wind, which invariably rarifies and cools the air, and leaves behind it pleasant weather for a fortnight or so, when a few hours of the same heat causes the same change. There are generally three or four of these very hot periods of short duration, during each summer, and they are not unfrequently aggravated by the "hot winds," which always blow from the north, and are accompanied by clouds of dust. These are most unpleasant days certainly; the wind is very strong, and the dust, previously reduced by the sun's rays to the finest possible state of pulverization, penetrates everything, and no doors or windows keep it out. It has been supposed by some that these north winds, being always so very hot, are caused by the existence in the far interior of an immense sandy desert; the north wind, in passing over the heated surface of the sand, becomes, in turn, raised to a high temperature, and travelling, as it generally does, with such velocity, has not time to cool again; until it reaches the southern ocean. This is another theory which will probably soon be cleared up by the result of Captain Sturt's explorations in the interior, now going on.

Although the days may be very hot in the summer months, the sun once sunk below the horizon, a considerable change takes place in the temperature of the atmosphere, and, with rare exceptions, a cool night restores to you strength and vigour to face the sun again next day.

Another very singular atmospheric feature, is the suddenness with which the changes take place, from a high, to a moderate temperature. Fancy to yourself, for instance, during the height of summer, that you are sitting in the coolest room of your house, temperature say 96; you are looking hopelessly at a jug of water, from which you are simple enough to expect *refreshment;* a magnificent water-melon may possibly also tempt an attack, but you turn away in despair—it is luke-warm; out of doors is blowing a stiff and steady breeze from the north, plentifully impregnated with small particles of dust; going out to face it in search of relief from the heat, would indeed be the extreme of simplicity. All of a sudden the atmosphere becomes darker and darker; the servants rush into every room to see that the windows are fastened; you look out, and perceive to the southward a dense column of dust rising perpendicularly into the air;—the two winds have met! The south wind, fresh from the sea, being many degrees colder than the north wind, is violently precipitated on to the ground, the lighter hot wind rising in proportion; this is the cause of the column of dust being raised so high. Now the two winds are engaged in

fierce struggle! it lasts but a moment; with gigantic strides the column of dust breasts its way northward—the hot-wind is fairly vanquished, and with a blast, before which the mighty gum-tree bends and your house quakes, the south wind proclaims its victory; in half an hour it settles down to a steady, cool breeze, the dust subsides, and "Richard is himself again."

There are, moreover, many alleviations to the summer heat; the air is very generally tempered by a cool and delightful sea-breeze, whilst the eastern breezes, which are wafted down upon us from the Mount Lofty ranges in the evening, are no less grateful; the air not being humid is not oppressive; you clothe yourself in the lightest garments, the hills on one side,* and the sea coast on the other, are sufficiently close, to allow you in a very short space of time to reach a cooler temperature, if are you so inclined; and the inconvenience from the dust will diminish every year, as the roads and streets, now in a state of pulverization, become more consolidated.

Flies and musquitoes are also troublesome customers during the summer, but these are, after all, trifling inconveniences; and those who would be deterred from going to Australia on account of them, had indeed better stop at home.

* For every 80 yards of altitude it is calculated that a decrease of one degree takes place in the atmosphere.

The brilliancy of the Australian sky cannot be described; it must be seen to be appreciated; the sky is almost always serene; when it is overcast there is some reason in it, it rains; but we have none of those gloomy days, with a thick murky atmosphere, in which the Londoner passes his life; and the early hours of a summer or spring morning, when the garb of nature is gayest, and the sun rises in unclouded splendour, can only be enjoyed in such a climate. Our longest day in December is about fourteen hours, and the shortest in June ten hours—not including twilight or early dawn. The absence of frost and snow does not necessarily constitute an absence of cold during our winter; get up before sunrise on a sharp July morning in the country, and be in the pleasant predicament of having to look for your horse in the bush, bridle in hand, for an hour or so, and you will soon have to blow into your fingers; perchance, when you have found your horse, your fingers may be so benumbed as hardly to perform the office of putting the bridle on him; this sharp bracing air is one of the great recommendations of our climate, as any lassitude which may have come upon you during the heat of summer is lost during the winter. By the foregoing meteorological table it appears that the coldest day in 1844 was in June, when the thermometer was as low as 47½°, and the warmest day in January 1845, when at noon the thermometer was at 106°; on referring to my journal I find the 12th of January

of last year put down as very hot, increased on the 13th by a north wind blowing, which was that same evening succeeded by cool pleasant weather. The mean yearly average of the quantity of rain which falls in South Australia is 19.902.

CHAPTER III.

PORT ADELAIDE—WHARFS—PORT ROAD—PROPOSED RAILWAY—SITE OF THE TOWN OF ADELAIDE JUDICIOUSLY SELECTED BY COLONEL LIGHT—FROME BRIDGE—PUBLIC BUILDINGS—JAIL UNNECESSARILY LARGE—THEATRE CONVERTED INTO SUPREME COURT-HOUSE—STREETS—PLACES OF WORSHIP AND SCHOOLS—MEANS OF EDUCATION—SUPPLY OF WATER FOR THE TOWN—DEFUNCT CORPORATION—CLUB-HOUSE.

THE harbour of Port Adelaide is an inlet from the sea; it is about eight or nine miles in length, and offers the safest accommodation for a vast amount of shipping. Captain Stokes, R. N., who accurately surveyed it, and took soundings when he was there, in the Beagle, calls it a natural dock; the reader will find a plan of the port in the large map of South Australia which accompanies this volume. This inlet is sheltered from every wind; the entrance to it, from the sea, is partially obstructed by a sandy bar, having 8 feet water at the lowest point of the ebb tide; the average height of the usual flood tide is 8 feet additional, which with southerly and south-westerly winds is considerably increased, so that

ships of 500 or 600 tons can always pass it in safety; once over the bar, there is sufficient depth of water all the way up for the largest ships, as may be seen by the soundings laid down in the plan. The bar is composed of fine sand, and it is supposed by competent people to be easily removable by a common dredging machine; should vessels of heavy draft, by chance, touch on crossing it, no injury to them need be apprehended. Such a thing is, however, of rare occurrence. I perceive, by a late paper, that the Government at Adelaide, have called for tenders to remove this bar.

The wharfs are situated about 8 miles up: owing to the swampy nature of the ground, their construction caused a considerable outlay of money, and large additional sums will be required, before accommodation can be given for large ships to discharge alongside of them with that convenience which the nature of the locality warrants them to expect.

The wharfs were partly constructed by the South Australian Company, partly by the Government,—those of the former are decidedly the best of the two; at the latter, vessels of small draft only can haul alongside. The expense incurred by the Government at the early period at which they were constructed, having been all but rendered useless, by the slovenly way in which they were executed, to say nothing of the actual dishonesty of sawing off from 5 to 6 feet from the piles, instead of driving them into the

mud to that additional depth, these "tops" having lately been fished up from the bottom of the harbour, thus rising, like "Banquo's ghost," in judgment on the contractors.

There is, however, great capability by the outlay of a moderate sum, (which, from the improved state of the finances, will now, it is to be hoped, soon be available,) and under the talented supervision of Captain Frome, R. E., to make those wharfs capable of affording all the accommodation required. Substantial warehouses and Custom-house buildings are erected on the banks.

Ships are supplied with fresh water at the port, at about 5 or 6 shillings a ton; the water is perfectly soft and good, remaining fresh during the longest voyage, as I have had myself an opportunity of judging on the voyage to England.

For the breadth of about a mile the port is surrounded on the land-side by a swamp, through which the Company above-mentioned have made a road, one mile and a quarter in length, at great expense; the difficulty of getting a foundation, and the absence of all means of land transport, in those days, rendered it necessary that the stone requisite for metalling this road should be brought from Kangaroo Island, where an inexhaustible supply of the best metalling lies ready broken upon the beach: —the cost of this road was £13,400, and according to the agreement entered into by Colonel Gawler with the Company, the latter were to receive £1600

per annum, rent; or else to levy a large toll from the colonists.—Captain Grey, by virtue of the powers vested in him by the third Section of the Act regulating the Sales of Waste Lands, compounded with the Company to take 12,000 acres out of the surveyed land of the colony in satisfaction of the principal and all claims for interest, and evidently beneficial as this wise measure was to the colonists, there were not those wanting who raised an outcry against the Governor for having done so: the road has been exceedingly well constructed under the able superintendence of Mr. Kingston, and forms a striking object of admiration to the newly arrived emigrant.

From the end of this made road, to Adelaide, a distance of six miles, the country is as level as any land can possibly be; the soil is also firm and stiff, and although not a farthing has been expended on it, it is nearly as good as many macadamized roads in old established countries. All goods, &c. from the port, and our exports to the port, are carried on drays drawn by bullocks—some influential gentlemen, in London, have just issued a prospectus for a railroad from Adelaide to the port, and I have no hesitation in saying that the prospects of a profitable return are most encouraging; the distance is short, the country so level that there will probably not be any necessity for removing the earth further than will be required to lay down the sleepers, and what is of still more importance, there is a very con-

siderable and constantly increasing traffic, on this road, in goods and passengers. It will also have the desirable effect of making available all those drays and bullocks, now employed on the Port road, for the transport of the ore from the different mines; the quantity raised increasing every day, and consequently the demand for conveyance. Numerous passenger carts start from the port to town, and *vice versa*, almost every quarter of an hour, in which, for 1*s*. 6*d*., you are rapidly driven up to Adelaide.

The town is prettily situated on the banks of the Torrens river, on ground sufficiently elevated to insure a perfect system of drainage being adopted, whenever the necessary funds may be forthcoming. The selection of the site of the town, was a sore subject of contention amongst the early colonists, from the Governor downwards; but, whatever difference of opinion there may have been formerly on this subject, every one is now agreed, that Colonel Light shewed sound judgment in fixing on this spot; had justice been done earlier to the talent of which he was so eminently possessed, had his indefatigable exertions to do his duty to the colony been appreciated, at a time when his mind was continually harassed, and his health and spirits broken by the annoyances to which he was subjected, a valuable life would perhaps have been spared. He is now, no more! but justice, tardy as it often is, has been done to his name, by the erection of a handsome

monument, lately finished, in the centre of the square called after him.*

The town, called after the consort of William the IVth, Adelaide, is laid out on both banks of the river Torrens, the "Yatala" of the natives; comprising 700 acres on the south, and 342 acres on the north bank, the latter being considerably more elevated than the former, and affording lovely views of the Mount Lofty hills, and surrounding neighbourhood; 200 acres are besides reserved between the two divisions of the town, with the view of hereafter forming a park and pleasure grounds for the citizens: they are

* The monument, which stands in the centre of Light Square, is a pentagonal gothic cross: height forty-five feet; and is divided into three compartments.—The lower compartment comprises five tablets, on one or more of which will be inserted the inscription and arms of the deceased. The second consists of five deep trefoil-headed niches, surmounted by crocketed gables, and, like the first, is supported, and further ornamented, by buttresses, with their appropriate pinnacles and finials. The third compartment is pierced on each face, with open trefoil-headed arches, ornamented with tracery. The spire rises from a light open battlement, and is ornamented with crockets, the top terminating with a cross, and the pentagonal figure being preserved throughout.

The structure is of frees-tone, procured from the hills in the neighbourhood of Adelaide, and altogether has a very imposing effect.

The design is by G. S. Kingston, Esq., and does the highest credit to that gentleman's well-known architectural taste. Mr. Kingston's services, have been devoted to this elegant and elaborate structure out of respect to the deceased, without any charge to the Committee.

partly inclosed, and are called the Park Lands. The size of the whole, at present, may appear a great deal too large, and doubtless many years will elapse before any thing like a regularly defined line of buildings will be seen throughout; but we must recollect, that Adelaide was not intended for us alone; that South Australia will go on increasing in the number of its inhabitants, long after we are dead and gone, and in after ages the benefit will appear, of having provided for the accommodation of a large population, on a liberal scale; and Adelaide will then become a noble city. Sydney, with all its wealth, and its thousands of inhabitants, must always retain the unseemly appearance of its narrow and crooked streets; and a more recent instance of the mistake of laying out a town, within narrow confines, is now seen in Melbourne, Port Phillip, the ground plan of which does not exceed 600 acres, which have been already covered with buildings, and the limits of the town being daily extended, the inhabitants will soon have the burial ground in the centre of their town. Let us, therefore, not quarrel with the size of Adelaide; it will conduce much to the health of the inhabitants, securing a plentiful circulation of fresh air, and most of the houses, excepting those in the immediate business part of the town, where the ground is very valuable, having pretty flower gardens and shrubberies attached to them, the effect is very pleasing. The hill or rise upon which South Adelaide is built,



E.L. Montefiore.

J.H. Le Lemin. Paris.

FROME BRIDGE — ADELAIDE.

is about sixty feet above the level of the plain, and forms a table land; the views presented by the four exterior frontages, are very dissimilar, though all delightful in their kind, those of North and East Terrace being the most pleasing; the former abutting on the Park Lands, and grounds of Government House, the latter, looking to the Mount Lofty range of mountains, distant about three miles; and it is difficult to imagine anything more varied or beautiful than the different tints of light and shade, thrown over its heights, by the setting sun, or fleeting clouds.

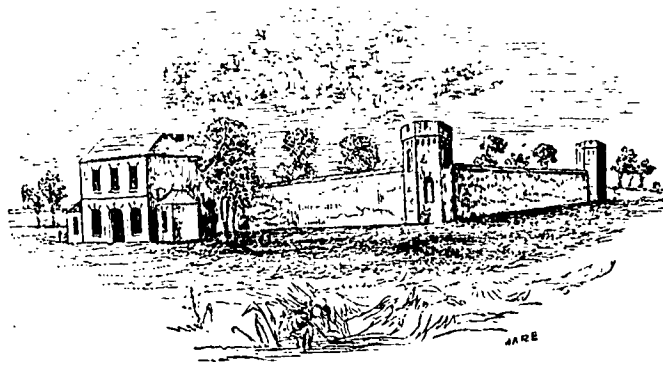
From West Terrace, you catch a glimpse of the Gulf, and from this point of view, the spectator may frequently witness the singularly delusive appearance of the "mirage," which, in the far interior, has so often tantalized our explorers with the prospect of water being near at hand, to cool their parched throats, only to end in disappointment.

The communication between North and South Adelaide, is by means of two bridges; the one to the eastward being called Frome Bridge, after our much respected Surveyor-general, Captain Frome, R. E., who designed and superintended its erection; it is substantially built of wood, on an improved principle; the lower bridge, commonly called the Town Bridge, over which the principal thoroughfare to Port Adelaide passes, has been repeatedly washed away by the winter floods; a substantial stone-arched bridge, is now in the course of erection, the

colony not having been able to afford the necessary funds at an earlier period, and it will add greatly to the useful ornaments of the town. The approaches to these bridges, were built by the emigrants, during the time the Government was forced to employ them, and are both convenient and well executed, as well as serving the purpose of inclosing the Park Lands, on the south side of the river.

Adelaide boasts of some handsome public buildings, erected during the administration of Colonel Gawler; as, for instance, Government House, Jail, Public Offices, Hospital, &c.; the first is built on a reserve of ten acres, part of the Park Lands, and only a portion of it has been completed as yet; when finished, to the full extent contemplated, and the grounds properly laid out and cultivated, it will form a very great ornament to the town. The public offices are built in a parallelogram, having an open space in the centre; the Governor, Private Secretary, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, the Surveyor and Registrar General, are all accommodated with convenient offices here, which consist of ground floors only.

From those public buildings, above enumerated, for which we stand indebted to Colonel Gawler, and the erection of which was of benefit to the colony, I except one,—the Jail. This building, stands on the outskirts of the town, to the westward; it is an extensive building, flanked by towers, forming a section of an octagon, and is like Government



The Jail.

House, incomplete. This jail, is an eyesore to the colony; new comers, on seeing it, ask, quite aghast: "what do you want with such a large jail in this free colony?" Aye! well may you ask that question! what do we want with it indeed? a building upon which £34,000 has been thrown away, ornamented with a parcel of trumpery and useless towers, each of which cost thousands; a building containing accommodation for 140 imaginary prisoners, whilst the total number of convictions for petty crimes and misdemeanours, out of a population of 20,000, was only *five and twenty for the whole year* 1844, or two per month!—a jail so large, and still only half finished, as necessarily to entail a heavy yearly expense on this colony, to guard only the half-dozen poor devils who are occasionally locked up in it. Who will pretend to excuse this expenditure, richly deserving the terms, "lavish" and "extravagant," which the Commissioners and others so readily

apply to the whole of Colonel Gawler's administration? This jail is a libel on our free, industrious, and well-disposed population; it is a libel on a colony, proverbial for the security of both life and property! Let me quit this subject, by adding, that in 1841, Governor Grey says, in one of his despatches, a jail sufficient for all the requirements of the colony, might have been built for from 4 to £5,000.

The South Australian Company, and other private individuals have also built many handsome edifices; among which, the South Australian Bank deserves especial mention for elegant design; a theatre of good proportions, and capable of containing 1200 people, was erected some years ago, and for a time, a company of actors, brought down from Sydney, obtained a precarious livelihood by their performances; it has, I am happy to state, lately been converted to a much more legitimate use, the Government having rented it for a series of years, at £200. per annum, and now contains the Resident Magistrates and Supreme Courts, besides Sheriffs' and Advocate General's offices, Judges' chambers, &c.—thus putting an end to a fruitful source of disorder and dissipation.

The streets are respectively, 66, 99, and 132 feet wide; the latter constituting the great intersecting lines. Hindley Street is the principal business thoroughfare; the ground here is very valuable, and is being rapidly built upon by the

merchants and trades-people, whose warehouses and shops, (the latter, many of them with elegantly designed fronts and plate glass windows,) would not disgrace any of the large country towns in England. Rundle, Grenfell, Currie, and King William Streets, are those more extensively built in for the present. The streets, being yet mostly in a state of nature, are very dusty in dry, and very muddy in wet weather; a beginning has, however, already been made, *à la Macadam*, which will be year after year extended; and all that has been done, has been well executed, keeping the permanent plan for drainage in view.

The principles of civil and religious liberty are intermixed with the foundations of South Australia, and members of the different religious denominations enjoy in Adelaide the opportunity of worshipping God according to the dictates of their consciences. Public worship is conducted by ministers of the Church of England, the Church of Scotland, the Secession, Wesleyan Methodists, Congregationalists, Baptists, and Roman Catholics. The Primitive Methodists and the New Connexion Methodists are supplied by lay preachers. The Bible Christians, the Society of Friends, and Jews, have meetings, and the German Lutherans have two congregations supplied by Pastor Kavel.

Return of the Number and Description of Places of Worship in South Australia, specifying the Locality, and Average Congregation of each, for the year 1844.

Situation.	Church of England.		Church of Scotland.		Dissenting Chapels.		Society of Friends.		Roman Catholics.	
	No. of places of Worship	Average No. of Congregation.	No. of places of Worship	Average No. of Congregation.	No. of places of Worship	Average No. of Congregation.	No. of places of Worship	Average No. of Congregation.	No. of places of Worship	Average No. of Congregation.
South Adelaide	2	700	1	80	6	890	—	—	1	300
North Adelaide	—	—	—	—	2	110	1	15		
Port Adelaide..	1	40	—	—	—	—				
Sturt Road	1	20	—	—	—	—				
Encounter Bay..	1	30	—	—	—	—				
Albert Town ..	—	—	—	—	1	50				
Strathalbyn....	—	—	1	60	—	—				
Gawler Town ..	—	—	—	—	1	30				
German Pass ..	—	—	—	—	2	170				
Klemzig	—	—	—	—	1	90				
Mt. Barker Dist..	—	—	—	—	5	230				
Bowden	—	—	—	—	1	50				
Walkerville	—	—	—	—	2	110				
Hindmarsh	—	—	—	—	2	160				
Willunga	—	—	—	—	1	40				
Islington & Richmond	—	—	—	—	2	30				
McLaren Vale..	—	—	—	—	1	40				
Totals....	5	790	2	140	26	2000	1	15	1	300

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 31st Jan., 1845.

Return shewing the Number of Schools in the Province of South Australia, their Locality, and the Number of Scholars attending them, for the year 1844.

Situation.	Number of Schools.	Average number of Scholars.				Total Average number of Scholars.
		European.		Native.		
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Adelaide	13	202	204	—	—	406
	1	—	—	10	9	19
Thebarton	2	16	20	—	—	36
Bethany	1	22	18	—	—	40
Gawler Town ..	1	5	3	—	—	8
Hahndorf	1	20	20	—	—	40
Hindmarsh	3	43	39	—	—	82
Willunga	1	8	7	—	—	15
German Pass ..	1	uncertain	uncertain	—	—	—
Encounter Bay..	1	—	—	7	6	13
Walkerville	1	—	—	34	26	60
Total.....	26	316	311	51	41	719

The only Schools receiving Government support are those for the Education of Native Children.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
31st January, 1845.

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Besides these there are 19 Sunday Schools, attended by 1099 European, and 60 Native Children.

The subjoined tables shew the number of places of worship, and schools, in Adelaide and the province generally. It will be seen by them that the dissenting chapels greatly preponderate over any other denomination, as well as in number of congregations: some of these are very handsome edifices; and are, the same as all other places of worship in the colony, built by private subscription. The minister of the Established Church receives a salary, from the Colonial Government, of £350. a year, and is called Colonial Chaplain; the first church of this persuasion was erected at great expense, and in the roughest manner; it is still heavily in debt, and all the friends of the Church in England, under whose notice these pages may fall, are earnestly requested to assist us with their subscriptions for church-building purposes, as well as to increase the strength of ministerial offices, many of the country districts being quite deprived of religious ministration. The sum of £600. has, last year, been raised in this colony to enlarge and rebuild Trinity Church, but it must be recollected that, however prosperous a futurity dawns upon us, the majority of the colonists are only now recovering from former disasters, and assistance for this legitimate purpose, from a religious British public, will be gratefully received by the colonists.*

Besides Trinity Church, situated in North Terrace, there is another church of the Established persuasion, erected also by voluntary contributions,

* The Banks of Australasia, or South Australia, would receive and transmit those subscriptions to the proper authorities.

(principally through the indefatigable exertions of Mrs. Gawler,) in East Terrace, called St. John; the ground for this church, and the adjoining parsonage, are the liberal gift of Osmond Gilles, Esq. of Adelaide. It is a very neat building, capable of containing from three to four hundred people; the former incumbent of this church, the Rev. Mr. Farrell, has been justly promoted to the Colonial Chaplaincy, when that situation became vacant by the decease of the much lamented and universally respected Rev. Mr. Howard, M. A., who was cut off in the vigour and prime of life by an allwise Providence, dying, as he had lived, a true Christian. A clergyman was by the last accounts immediately expected from Van Diemen's Land; I believe the Rev. Mr. Wilson, upon whose arrival St. John's Church will again be opened.*

The Roman Catholic community has lately received a strong accession in the persons of a bishop, and several priests, and a cathedral of great magnitude is immediately to be built, for which it is said ample funds are in the hands of the bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Murphy; this reverend Divine

* Since the above was in type, I found the following notice in the Standard of March 13th, 1846, which I have much pleasure in copying:—"The Rev. W. Woodcock has proceeded, in connection with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to St. John's, Adelaide, South Australia; and the Rev. James Pollett has proceeded, in connection with the same society, to Mount Barker, South Australia. Mr. Woodcock was rector of Witherslack, Westmoreland; and Mr. Pollett, rector of Lindale, Lancashire. Both these benefices have become vacant by the rev. gentlemen's missionary appointments."

has been many years in New South Wales, where he was much respected by all denominations.

The attendance on the Sabbath-days at all the churches in town is very numerous; indeed the Sabbath-days are nowhere in England more religiously kept than in South Australia, and in the country districts where, from the want of ministers, no congregations can be collected, service on Sundays, and morning and evening devotion are very universally adhered to by the families.

On the west side of the town, and quite out of the line of the town extension is the Cemetery, of sufficient size for all burial purposes for many years to come.

I believe I am quite correct in stating, that on the whole there is a great deficiency in the means of obtaining proper instruction for children of the superior classes, requiring a better education; I am not aware that there are any scholastic establishments in the colony, in which boys or girls could be thoroughly educated; this is not said with a view of disparaging the meritorious exertions of those, who are now charged with the tuition of the youthful South Australians; but there are in the colony, many people who wish to bestow upon their children something more in the shape of education than the mere rudiments, and I think there is a good opening for an educational establishment, conducted on a sufficiently extended scale, by competent persons.

The town is supplied with drink-water out of the Torrens, by means of water carts; abundance of

water for common household purposes being obtained from wells of from sixty to eighty feet depth; the water from the Torrens is perfectly fresh all the year round, but the inhabitants must naturally pay dear for it, as long as it is brought to them, as it is now, by means of carts. About five miles from Adelaide in the hills, there are abundant springs of the purest water; the elevation of these springs above the town-level, is more than sufficient to bring the water into the town by means of pipes, and laying it on into every house—and I am greatly mistaken if the time is not near at hand, when the colonists will be aided by British capitalists, in carrying out this most desirable, and to the projectors I trust profitable undertaking.

Adelaide has also already made one attempt at establishing a Municipal Corporation, a Colonial Act having been passed for this purpose, 11th August, 1842; its organization was evidently premature for the wants of the colony, and after a few months existence, "after much cry and little wool," mayor, aldermen, councillors and all, vanished into thin air, and the chairs and tables seized by the landlord of the premises, under distraint for rent. It must be left to the Governor and legislature, to decide upon the fitting time when the defunct corporation is to rise from its ashes, but it had better be still longer deferred, rather than that it should resume its deliberations under such restricted powers as formerly; better is it to have no corporation at all, unless we can have one "de facto," and not merely in name; one that

may have the confidence of the colonists, and *power* to enforce respect; and, not before there can be funds sufficient raised to pay the necessary salaries and expenses, without the risk of having their comfortable arm-chairs knocked down to the highest bidder, for their liquidation.

A club-house, consisting of the principal government officers, professional, and other gentlemen, has several times been formed, and as often broken up, owing to no want of members, but merely to the non-enforcement of those strict rules and regulations, which at every new organization of its members, were studiously and carefully compiled, and as quickly infringed. In Sydney, Melbourne, and the large towns of Van Diemen's Land, club-houses of the first respectability have flourished, even through times when almost all other public institutions went to the ground. There is no reason why South Australia, which contains so many gentlemen of standing and education, should not also possess such a desirable place of "*réunion*;" and I trust the next attempt will establish it on a firmer basis.



Government House.

CHAPTER IV.

PUBLIC HOUSES—IMPROVIDENCE AND EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE WORKING CLASSES, COMPARED WITH THE GERMAN COLONISTS—POPULATION OF THE COLONY—CENSUS RETURNS—THE GERMAN SETTLEMENTS—NUMBER OF STEAM AND OTHER MILLS — MANUFACTORIES — THE BANKS — NEWSPAPERS—AMUSEMENTS AND SOCIETY—PICNICS—CONCERTS—HOSPITALITY—HUNTING—RACES—THE BLESSINGS OF A FREE POPULATION AS COMPARED WITH THE CONVICT SYSTEM—LOYALTY OF THE COLONISTS.

Return of Public Houses in the Province of South Australia, for the Years 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, *and* 1844.

Locality.	Number of Public Houses in the year.				
	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844
Adelaide	63	58	38	32	34
Port Adelaide and Albert Town.	7	9	6	2	3
Country, including Port Lincoln and Kangaroo Island.....	37	38	37	33	33
Totals.....	107	105	81	67	70

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 31st January, 1845.

The above Government return, shews the number of public houses in Adelaide and suburbs to be 37; in the country 33; the latter, are perhaps indispensable for the sake of affording accommodation to

travellers; but the former, although reduced to half the number of the year 1840, when they amounted to 70, might still further be reduced, many of them being but so many lounging places for the working classes to spend their earnings in, and engendering habits of dissipation amongst those who ought to be saving their money.* I may mention one fact to illustrate this assertion: On a Saturday morning, in Adelaide, I paid one of our shepherds the balance of his year's wages, some £23.; with this, he started off to one of these public houses, on a "spree," as he called it; on Monday

* The following is a list of all the licenses granted to trades in the Province, with the amount of the fees payable annually:—

LICENSE FEES.

For a general publican's license . .	£25	0	0
For the sale of wine and beer only. .	12	0	0
For a storekeeper's license, authorising to sell not less than a gallon of wine, spirits, &c. . . .	5	0	0
For an auctioneer's license, within 10 miles of Adelaide . .	25	0	0
Ditto, more than 10 miles from Adelaide . . .	10	0	0
Ditto, partnership license, extra . .	10	0	0
Ditto, auctioneer's clerk, extra . .	10	0	0
For an appraiser's license, if not at the same time an auctioneer . .	5	0	0
For a distiller and rectifier's license. .	25	0	0

To obtain this last license, an application must be made to the Governor, through the Colonial Secretary.

morning following, my gentleman again waited on me, his face cut, his eye bunged up, and one of his hands in a sling. Upon my inquiring what he wanted, he said he had come to ask me for half-a-crown, to pay his way up to the station again, not having a farthing left. I expressed my surprise, that he should possibly have spent so large a sum in so short a time; when he answered very coolly, that early on Saturday night, he had become quite intoxicated, and insensible, that he did not "pick himself up again," for twenty-four hours, and then found all his money gone, being told by the people of the public house, that he had spent it, in "treating his friends."—With this improbable story, poor H. W. was obliged to trudge off, and being one of our best shepherds, I sent him back to his flock, to economize for another twelve months, and probably to have then, "another such a short-lived spree."

This addiction to drink, is a sad failing with many of our English, Irish, and Scotch servants. In the bush, they never get anything stronger than tea; their wants for clothing are very trifling, and a steady man can easily save £20 a year out of his wages of £25.; but let them come within hail of a public house, and many will drink themselves into a state of stupid intoxication, with their year's savings, for days together. They are, however, not all of this description; some of our own shepherds,

have handsome sums to their credit, at the banks, and I was not unfrequently commissioned to lodge the money for them, and bring them the blue printed deposit receipts, out to their station.

Now see how differently the German labourer in the colony acts; the necessity of every farthing he spends, is seriously weighed, before he parts with it; you never see a German in a public house drinking spirits; he will come into town many miles afoot, carrying, perhaps, a heavy load of vegetables, or what not, for the market; after he has sold his goods, he will take a lump of bread out of his pocket, brought with him from home, of his housewife's own baking, and his day's profit must have been very good, to induce him to buy, even a glass of ale, to wash down his frugal dinner; more frequently it is a draught of spring water: the result to the one is, therefore, a constant state of dependence, although not of want, as they are always sure of employment, (this very fact of their so easily replacing the means for their extravagance, being, perhaps, the leading cause of it,) whilst to the other, the prospect is held out, of a steadily increasing and sure independence.

The population of South Australia is estimated at 20,000, and is rapidly increasing, both by the resumed emigration from the mother country, and by numbers of all classes of free emigrants, who are crowding into South Australia from New Zealand,

New South Wales, Port Phillip, and Van Diemen's Land, in consequence of the favourable prospects they have of doing much better in South Australia than any where else.* This latter is the most favourable description of emigration to the colony, as our population is increased at the expense of the other provinces, by people who have already acquired some experience as settlers. The last official census returns are of February, 1844, they are given to

* *General Summary of Immigration for the year* 1844.

	Immigrants	Emigrants
Great Britain	120	72
British Colonies	809	271
Foreign States	185	4
Total	1114	347
	347	
Excess of Immigrants at Port Adelaide	767	
Estimated increase of population by arrivals overland	206	
Total increase of population by immigration	973	

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

General Summary of Immigration, for the quarter ending April 5, 1845.

	Immigrants	Emigrants
Great Britain	144	27
British Colonies	613	109
Foreign States	—	4
Total	757	140
	140	
Excess of Immigrants	617	

This Return has been compiled from the Official Records of this Office.

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 23rd April, 1845.

shew the relative proportions of the sexes, the average of ages, and religion of the population.

Return shewing the age, religion, occupation, and trade or calling of persons in the Province of South Australia, in February, 1844.

Numbers of each Age.	Sex.		Total.
	Male.	Fem.	
Under two years	890	834	1724
Two and under seven	1459	1434	2893
Seven and under fourteen	1322	1241	2563
Fourteen and under twenty-one	922	866	1788
Twenty-one and under forty-five	4432	2996	7428
Forty-five and under sixty	457	281	738
Sixty and upwards	44	18	62
Totals	9526	7670	17196

RELIGION.

Church of England	9418
Church of Scotland	1691
Wesleyan Methodists	1666
Other Protestant Dissenters	3309
Roman Catholics	1055
Jews	25
Mahomedans and Pagans	32
Total	17,196

Of the above, about 1500 are Germans.—The first body of these people arrived in the colony in November and December, 1838, in the ship Zebra, Captain Hahn—and the Prince George from Hamburgh—part of them were located near Adelaide, where they established the village of Klemzig, those by the "Zebra" having settled on part of a special survey, in the Mount Barker District, calling

the village Halindorf, after the Captain of the vessel from whom they experienced much kindness on the voyage out. Religious persecution was the primary cause of their expatriation, they belonging to the Evangelical Lutheran persuasion; and the clergyman of their community in Prussia, the Rev. Mr. Kavel, accompanied them, and has ever since continued their spiritual pastor in the colony: unobtrusive in their manners, highly industrious, and of economical habits, these German emigrants now form a very independent and prosperous portion of the South Australian community; the annals of the Supreme Court can bear witness to their general orderly behaviour, as I believe there has been no single instance in which one of these Germans was convicted of a serious offence. The Rev. Mr. Kavel, whose indefatigable labours in attending to the several widely separated German settlements, cannot be too highly spoken of, possesses a considerable degree of authority amongst them, and is treated by them with the greatest respect. Without any other than moral control, his influence is so great, that in any dispute, or the punishment of minor offences, he is able to exercise full authority over them, without having to call in the aid of the local authorities; the offender being simply admonished, and with complete effect, from the pulpit, after divine service. They are strictly religious; but a certain degree of jealousy is entertained by them against becoming amalgamated with the English population of the

colony, as marriages with English are not encouraged by them. It has been objected to these German emigrants, that the colonists do not derive any direct accession of labour from them, as they generally keep together in separate communities; but this is not a liberal view to take, as they rent a good deal of land from English proprietors, and whenever not engaged with the cultivation of their own farms, they gladly take work from the settlers; in the Mount Barker district particularly, the Hahndorf villagers have rendered important assistance to the English agriculturists. As labourers, however, they are not to be compared to those from England, Scotland, or Ireland; they are slow, awkward, and dull of comprehension, but these less favourable qualities are abundantly outweighed by their steady and persevering plodding industry, and general good behaviour.

At first starting, the community of Hahndorf, incurred a debt of £1,500 for provisions, before their crops were harvested; they had besides to pay £7. per acre, in annual instalments, for 240 acres, on which the village was located, making £1,680 more, exclusive of interest; wheat cost them at that time, £1. per bushel; a pair of draft oxen, £40., and a cow, £18. All these debts are now paid off, besides having been able to buy 480 acres more adjoining the village, from government, and they possess many head of cattle and horses, and, in fact, every description of stock.

There are at present, five German villages in South Australia; Klemzig, Hahndorf, Lobethal, Bethanien, and Langmeil; and a regular emigration from Bremen to Adelaide, has been for some time established, under the active superintendence of Mr. Edward Delius, who despatches one of Mr. Oelrich's large and fine ships, every five or six months. This emigration from Germany, will become more and more important, as our extensive mineral districts are brought into operation; the Germans, from the Hartz mountains, and Saxony, are excellent miners and smelters; the latter being the more desirable to us, as from the abundance of wood, our smelting operations will be conducted principally with charcoal, in which the Germans are great adepts. A neatly got up pamphlet, in German, embellished with a lithographic print of the town of Adelaide, and map of the country, is being extensively circulated in Germany, by Mr. Delius, containing statistical accounts of the colony, by the Rev. Mr. Kavel, as well as numerous letters, from German settlers, to their friends at home, which give glowing descriptions of the success which has attended them; and it is pleasing to read, the pious and grateful feeling towards Providence, which pervades all their letters, for having cast their lot, in so "blessed a country," as they term it.

There are many substantial flour mills in Adelaide, and the country; the number at the close of last year being, eight steam, seven wind, two

water, and four cattle mills; these mills are kept in very active work, owing to the large quantities of flour, which is now every year exported to the neighbouring colonies, Mauritius, and the Cape of Good Hope.

Amongst the manufactories, may be reckoned 1 barilla, 9 breweries, 2 coach, 21 mills, 3 foundries, 4 machine manufactories, 1 pottery, 1 of salt, 1 of snuff and tobacco, 4 soap and candles, 1 of starch, 7 tanneries, 1 water work. By this, it will be perceived, that we have all the means of furnishing, within the colony itself, the principal requisites of articles of daily use, and I must not omit to bear testimony to the fact, that every description of handicraft, such as carpenters, cabinet makers, builders, stone masons, &c., is well found with talented artizans.

There are two banks in Adelaide: the one, is a branch of the bank of Australasia, which is incorporated by royal charter, and has establishments in all the Australian colonies; the business of this bank has, for some time past, been considerably restricted, owing to the badness of the times; a corresponding increase to its circulation, is now determined upon, by the London directors, as the rapid progress the colony is making fully warrants such an extension. By far the largest amount of business is transacted by the South Australian Bank, formerly belonging to the South Australian Company, but now to a distinct proprietary; the affairs of this bank have

for some years past, been very ably conducted by Edward Stephens, Esq., who has, throughout the trying difficulties of the colony, during the past years, extended very liberal assistance to the colonists, as far as was consistent with the interests intrusted to his care.

The annexed tables will clearly demonstrate the nature and amount of business transacted by the two establishments.

Aggregate Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Banking Establishments of South Australia.

(Bank of South Australia, and Bank of Australasia) compiled from their half-yearly Returns, published in the "South Australian Government Gazette."

LIABILITIES.

Years.	Notes in circulation.	Bills in circulation.	Deposits.	Balances due to other Banks.	Total Liabilities.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1841	16,725 0 9	6,712 6 1	70,413 15 1	1,251 19 1	95,340 9 2
1842	12,403 11 0	3,125 11 9	58,228 9 10	429 9 4	74,197 1 0
1843	9,939 11 1	3,314 3 9	51,897 7 5	793 14 0	65,944 16 10
1844	11,027 13 1	1,890 17 4	55,348 17 7	787 4 10	69,054 12 11

ASSETS.

Years.	Coin.	Landed Property.	Balances due from other Banks.	Notes and Bills discontinued, & all other debts due to the Banks.	Total Assets.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1841	23,880 11 2	4,121 15 9	308 7 7	207,783 12 6	263,882 1 6
1842	22,795 2 5	6,718 15 0	2,344 19 0	201,746 11 6	233,105 8 2
1843	27,881 1 0	8,139 6 9	2,944 10 7	186,067 5 10	225,032 4 3
1844	32,492 11 10	7,867 14 11	3,055 3 4	181,121 15 9	224,537 5 11

Half-yearly Return of the aggregate average Amount of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of Australasia, within the Colony of South Australia, from October 15, 1844, to April 14, 1845, both days inclusive.

LIABILITIES.	£.	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£.	s.	d.
Bills in circulation not bearing Interest	1,879	6	5	Gold, Silver, and other Metals	5,865	4	0
Notes in circulation not bearing Interest	4,210	6	2	Landed property (Bank premises)	0	0	0
Bills and Notes in circulation bearing Interest	0	0	0	Bills of other Banks	0	0	0
Balances due to other Banks	0	0	0	Balances due from other Banks	0	0	0
Cash deposited not bearing Interest	15,682	16	10	Debts due to the Corporation, including notes, bills, & other securities	32,578	3	2
Cash deposited bearing Interest	3,788	6	7				
Total Liabilities....	25,560	16	0	Total Assets....	38,443	7	2

WILLIAM GRAY, Pro. Manager.
J. W. McDONALD, Pro. Accountant.

Bank of Australasia, Adelaide, 19th April, 1845.

Half-yearly Statement of the average Weekly Amount of the Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of South Australia, in the Province of South Australia, from November 26, 1844, to May 26, 1845, both days inclusive.

LIABILITIES.	£.	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£.	s.	d.
Notes in circulation not bearing Interest	11,094	4	3	Gold, Silver, and other Metals	20,185	9	0
Bills in circulation not bearing Interest	1,965	6	6	Landed Property (Bank Premises, &c.)	7,645	7	3
Bills and Notes in circulation bearing Interest	0	0	0	Bills of other Banks	0	0	0
Balances due to other Banks	447	19	4	Balances due from other Banks	996	10	1
Cash deposited not bearing Interest	26,958	15	3	Debts due to the Bank, including Bills, Notes, &c.	141,599	10	8
Cash deposited bearing Interest	16,740	19	8				
Total Liabilities....	57,207	5	0	Total Assets....	170,426	16	7

EDWARD STEPHENS, Manager.
GEORGE TINLINE, Accountant.

Bank of South Australia, Adelaide, 27th May, 1845.

Amongst other public institutions may be mentioned, the Savings Bank, under the presidency of the Governor, vice president, five trustees, and other directors. Three lodges of Free-masons, viz: the Lodge of Friendship, No. 613; Lodge of Harmony, and Lodge of St. John; seven lodges of Odd Fellows; Total Abstinence Society; Subscription Library; and Auxiliary Bible Society.

There are at present, three newspapers published at Adelaide, one every other day; the Register, the Southern Australian, and the Observer. The first-mentioned one is of the longest standing, although it has changed its proprietorship a great many times. The Observer, is the best got up of the three, as far as type, and general selection of extracts from the European papers, which may prove interesting to the colonist, goes; a great improvement has also, of late years, taken place in the general tone pervading the political portion of the press; a very common mistake, in colonial newspapers, being to try, and enforce argument, by violent and grossly personal invective.*

* The Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, in his interesting little volume on Australia, has the following amusing remarks on the Sydney Press:—

"Some of our colonial publications, stand greatly in need of pruning; about these, there is one very amusing peculiarity. If you happen to advance any opinion, or endeavour to establish any doctrine, unpalatable to the editor, instead of attempting to refute, or disprove by argument, your statements, he immediately falls foul of yourself; abuses you personally, and, if

English readers might easily wonder, what material there can be in the colony, to support three, if not four newspapers, for a fourth has lately been started, by Mr. George Stephenson, the former proprietor, and talented editor, of the Register; it may be supposed, that a dearth of information must frequently occur, when the arrivals from Europe are protracted by contrary winds, or otherwise. But the principal uses of the local papers are, the medium they afford for advertising; this being the leading source, whence the profit is derived by the newspaper proprietors; a large part of all goods, imported into the colony, are sold by auction, which requires a preliminary and lengthy announcement, in the papers of the day.

Of amusements we do not boast many, for the very good reason, that where nobody is, or ought to be idle, amusements are not wanted; still, social intercourse, in all its refinement, is kept up amongst the different families; and strangers, who have visited our shores for a short time, may be able to bear testimony to the gaieties, which enliven our society periodically. His Excellency the Governor, hospitably entertains the principal colonists very often, in addition to two very large parties, given at Government House, on the Queen's birth-day, and the Anniversary of the foundation of

there is anything objectionable in all your past history, he rakes it up, and places it against your statements; to prove, of course, that they are incorrect."

the colony, in December; when from 2 to 300 of the most respectable colonists, enjoy the festivities of the evening; these are generally followed by other parties, given by the higher officials, and principal residents, to say nothing of the bachelors' balls, which have a high reputation for the spirit, and liberality, with which they are got up. Picnics are also a very favourite amusement; the different glens amongst the hills, in the immediate neighbourhood of Adelaide, the proximity of the coast, and many pretty country residences, within four or five miles of the town, affording numerous places of resort for this purpose. Picnics in Australia, may be undertaken without fear and trembling for the usual concomitant to such amusements in England, namely, a pelting shower of rain; and the pleasure of these rural meetings, when they are prolonged beyond sun-down, which often happens, is much enhanced, by the delicious moonlight nights we boast of possessing.

Amateur concerts are also of frequent occurrence, many being given for charitable purposes, at which the first ladies in the colony do not consider it beneath their dignity to assist.

Hospitality reigns throughout the land, in good old English style: a person may get on his horse in Adelaide, and ride north or south or east, and leave his purse behind him; for he will be able to traverse the whole colony, without expense, and find a hearty welcome, with comfortable accommodation



W. Maturin.

J.H. Le Heux. Patent.

KOONUNGA.

THE RESIDENCE OF A SHEEP-FARMER.

for himself and beast, every evening; indeed, the accommodation of casual strangers and travellers is so much looked upon as a matter of course, that at most country establishments there are apartments always kept ready for that purpose, as travellers arrive at all hours of the day, and not unfrequently in the middle of the night. The universal beverage being tea, the tea-pot on such occasions becomes of great importance, and is often of gigantic size, the beverage being considered as refreshing after a hot ride as anything one could drink. Pre-eminent for hospitality, is the country residence of Captain Bagot, M.C., called Koonunga; being situated near the thoroughfare to the north, the number of people who in the course of the year partake of his hospitable kind attentions, and that of his family, could hardly be credited. The privacy of his family being so constantly broken in upon, must have often been disagreeable to him; but he did not mind this, his maxim being, rather to afford accommodation to all travellers at his own residence, than to have a public house near him, bringing with it the baneful evil of the sale of spirits.

All the purely English sports are kept up with much spirit in the colony; hunting, racing, and, in a less degree cricket, are, in the proper seasons, much patronised. The neighbourhood of Adelaide has been for the last three or four years, hunted by a pack of harriers, under the management of George Hamilton, Esq., which have afforded some splendid

sport, before the game became as scarce as it is now, owing to the increase in the cultivation; the kangaroo and dingo, or native dog, are the game hunted, both of which give good runs, the latter not unfrequently escaping, after a burst of eight or ten miles, by ensconcing himself into one of the wombat holes, with which the country abounds.

The annual races are very popular, and well attended, causing for the time they last, usually three days, almost a total stagnation of business. Adelaide boasts of as fine a race-course in the immediate neighbourhood of the town, as any in the world; perfectly level, and without a single stump of a tree or stone, it presents a fair field for equestrian feats. The beginning of January is the time set apart for these truly national sports, and then the settler comes into Adelaide from far and near, top-boots and cut-aways are the order of the day, and the steady old nag, who has been accustomed for months before to jog through the bush at his own pace, gets extra allowances of corn, and a double application of curry-comb and brush, to be able to show off on the race-course, in galloping from one point to another, for every body is on horseback. His Excellency the Governor, with laudable spirit, not only supports the races with his annual subscription, but daily honours the race-course with his presence, and the multitude assembled on those days, were not slow in acknowledging the compliment, by the very hearty cheering with which

the Governor's arrival and departure, were every day hailed. No greater and more convincing proof can be given, of the very orderly nature of the South Australian population, when I say, that out of the thousands assembled in January 1845, to witness the races, at a time too, when most of the labouring classes had plenty of money, and means of becoming intoxicated and riotous, not one case of disorderly behaviour occurred, which called for the active interference of the police.

With regard to general morals and respectability of the whole South Australian population, this thoroughly British colony ranks foremost amongst all the Australian Provinces, without exception. The blessings of free emigration having been secured to us from the commencement, South Australia may be said to stand amongst the Australian convict colonies, like an oasis in the desert. Let the official Government return of convictions in the South Australian courts of justice, speak to the truth of this, and then compare this table with the same documents published in the other colonies; read the publications on New South Wales, and the statements of the frightful amount of crime in Van Diemen's Land, as contained in the Petition, lately presented to Parliament, by the free settlers of that colony, and every one must admit, that we have cause to be grateful, that our beautiful land was saved from such a fate.

With the state of things in the neighbouring

colonies, constantly before our eyes, do we value our privilege of having a free population, and when it became a short time since rumoured, that a consignment of the Parkhurst boys was contemplated to South Australia, the whole colony determined to resist their introduction, by every constitutional means within their power; petitions to the Queen and Parliament, in firm, but respectful language, were in a short time signed by thousands, and it was perhaps the first time, that amongst the signatures were found the names of fathers, who signed for themselves, and the number of children of which their families were composed; thus, speaking volumes of the religious dread every one entertained of the moral contamination to be apprehended to the rising generation, from their introduction.

In South Australia there are no bush-rangers; the distance of our Province from New South Wales, from which it is divided by large tracts of unoccupied country, is a good safeguard against the introduction of runaway convicts, who even if they succeeded in reaching the Province, would soon be ferreted out by our very efficient and active police; or were bush-ranging attempted, there would be no lack of spirit amongst our settlers to put a stop to it at once, in the same summary way that my friend, Mr. Fowler, and his gallant companions did in Port Phillip.—The greatest security, therefore, prevails both in town and country, which there is no reason to apprehend will be infringed.

The loyalty of the South Australian Colonists, and their attachment to the mother country, notwithstanding that we are, on the whole, treated in a very step-motherly way by the Home Government, is undoubted. Witness the alacrity with which congratulatory addresses have been, and will be promoted on every occasion in which the feelings of an Englishman expand towards our gracious Sovereign.—Whatever injustice may have occurred in the policy of the Government towards this distant dependency, our devotion to the Queen and Royal Family is verdant and blooming as the spring flower, and on Her Majesty's birthday the levee of His Excellency, the Governor, as Her Majesty's representative, is crowded by well dressed Colonists, who come to town from the north and south to render that homage which is innate in the heart of every Englishman.

CHAPTER V.

THE MOUNT BARKER, AND ADJACENT HILL DISTRICTS.

This district lies due east of the town of Adelaide, from which it is distant 25 miles. On leaving the town the road runs across the plains for three miles, when it enters the Mount Lofty ranges at Glen Osmond, immediately on the left of which are situated the Glen Osmond Lead Mines, the property of Osmond Gilles, Esq. Although the importance of a road to the eastward, to the Mount Barker and Strathalbyn districts on to the River Murray, was early admitted, the difficulty of finding a good pass was such, that it was not till the close of 1840 that a suitable line was adopted. Early in 1841 the forming of a road was commenced, and though still incomplete, has long afforded easy access to the agricultural districts across the ranges. The road, formed by the building of many hundred lineal yards of retaining wall, from three to fifteen feet high, and cuttings in the bank in many places 16 feet deep, winds up the lovely glen, presenting constantly varying and beautiful tableaux of rural scenery, till you reach the first elevation, where a magnificent coup d'œil of the surrounding country awaits you. To the right and left rise a mass of

rounded hills of every size, broken into numerous little valleys and covered with noble trees and a verdant sward; at your feet commence the Adelaide plains running west and north for many miles, as far as the eye can see; you observe how extensively the land has been enclosed and cultivated, and the former arid surface of the plains changed into waving corn-fields; the town of Adelaide next catches your attention, and beyond that, the waters of the Gulf, and the Inlet which forms the Port, with the tall masts of the shipping.

On the highest part of the range has been erected an excellent inn, substantially built of stone, and well furnished; this place is, during the heat of summer, much resorted to by parties from town, who wish to enjoy the pleasant mildness of the temperature. From the inn to Mount Barker the road is in progress of being made, but not yet completed, as it is of some extent. I am indebted to my friend, Mr. Robert Davenport, for the following account of this district, he having resided there some years on his estate of Battunga, and I proceed in his own words:—

"This district takes its name from the mountain in the neighbourhood, called Mount Barker; it rises to upwards of 3000 feet above the sea level, and is a distinguished object for many miles around. The locality has been esteemed one of the finest tracts of country in New Holland. All British grains and fruits are here climatized. I should

believe, that on the rich and sheltered slopes and valleys, the natural soil will yield, varying from two, three, and more successive seasons, wheat, potatoes, and beans; (plants, which an English farmer would say, are good tests of the capabilities of land) crops, in quality and abundance equal to the highest artificial products of this country. Indeed, the climate and products of the hills, are delightfully adapted for the residence of British habits and tastes.

"In alluding to what is more properly the Mount Barker District, as lying immediately at the foot of that mountain—I would comprehend in my estimate, other more or less broad localities, which rank with any in beauty and fruitfulness.

"Having, since I returned to this country, in June last, travelled through the west and south of England, to the Land's End—partly with a view to observe and compare the features and rocks which are characteristic of that part of the kingdom, I am at liberty, perhaps, to express a judgment on their resemblance to portions of South Australia, with which I am better acquainted. Excepting water scenery (of which there is a scarcity) to enliven and enrich the landscape, I do not see in what respect the choicest portions of the hilly districts in the colony, are not comparable to the most attractive in Devonshire, and worthy of as spirited landlords and noble mansions.

"In passing this estimate, which, by some, may

be thought too flattering, a little indulgence may be allowed, whether needed or not, on account of the brightness of our climate, and the evergreen appearance of the foliage. We have the alluvial moulds, which have noted that county in the vegetable world, and proximate thereto, the metalliferous rocks which have distinguished the barren county of Cornwall. It appeared to me, that a corresponding kind of igneous agency beneath, acting upon exactly similar rocks, had produced a very like surface—in rounded hills, interwoven much one with the other, presenting with their long and gentle slopes, or abrupt sides, a beautiful and diversified aspect. Near to the pretty village of Bloomfield in Somersetshire, at the foot of the line of hills which run into Cornwall—where some men, in the centre of a grassy farm were at work, opening a shaft to a newly discovered vein of copper ore, I was especially struck with the resemblances in the lay of slaty and quartz rocks, and in the variegated scenery which enclosed all the view, hill and dale, adapted for the grazier or the plough.

"The best portions of land on the hills, as some of the most eligible parts of the plains, were taken up, in the earlier history of the colony, by purchasers of "special surveys," who, in selecting such, were privileged to choose not less than 4000 out of an extent surveyed for them by the Government not exceeding 15,000; that amount then constituted

a special survey. Such a system of selection was soon abolished.

"The original proprietors of these surveys, are, in a few cases, resident as part occupiers, and most of the occupied land being in the hands of small farmers—men, many of them, risen from the labouring class, by earnings gotten in the colony, who have taken 40, 80, or more acres, for a term of 7, 10, or 14 years at an improving rent, generally commencing with 3*s*, 4*s*, or 5*s* per acre, and ordinarily, with a right of pre-emption at a sum agreed upon.

"The Mount Barker 'special survey' is thus largely appropriated by numerous and respectable parties, some of whom are gentlemen engaged formerly in professional pursuits in this country, on whom the attractions of rural life and independence, with the hopes, it may be, of planting rising families in a new and expansive world, had operated to place them in their new sphere. Visitors to the colony from India and elsewhere, who commonly resort to Mount Barker to be refreshed by its verdant scenery and cooler clime, find large hospitality and English comforts at the abodes which welcome them. Wheat, barley, oats, potatoes and maize, are extensively grown; dairy cows and flocks of sheep, are kept; bacon is much cured; and the quantity of land, substantially fenced for all rural purposes, is very considerable. Attached to this survey, and

commanding a majestic view, is the site for the Township. It is the 'county town' for the District; and contains a Court-house, where a bench of magistrates assembles once a week—a police station—a post office—a school house—a steam flour mill—an inn, and some private dwelling places. The population increases, and the stone buildings assume a respectable appearance. Mr. Duncan McFarlane is the principal resident here. His substantial and handsome barn is the most conspicuous erection. It is hoped that his success will lead to the rearing of a corresponding dignified dwelling place. Mr. McFarlane has grown great quantities of grain—used Ridley's reaping machine, and employed numbers of the Germans.

"The village of Hahndorf, populated by from 300 to 400 Germans, is located on a distant part of this estate. In common with other of their countrymen in the colony, they are pleased with their adopted country, where they are prosperous and free.

"The same kind of progress is making on the survey, north and west of Mount Barker, of which 'Nairne' is the township. Here, likewise, are signs of considerable advance in trade and importance. Several substantial stone-built dwellings are erected—a chapel—a windmill—inn and shops, and various trades are conducted. Mr. Smillie, father to the Advocate-general, is a large owner and occupier of this survey. The scenery around his

dwelling is very imposing. The style of his house —its flag-stone simplicity—reminded me of the old Gothic erections of home; and the hospitality is quite in keeping.

"Bearing west and south to Mount Barker, extending some ten miles distant, is the 'Three Brothers Special Survey.' It contains enterprising settlers, some of whom possess beautiful farms, luxuriant gardens and orchards. Some gentlemen are imitating their forefathers, by laying out grounds in broad old English style. 'Echunga Springs,' the property of the Hon. Jacob Hagen, Member of Council, has a most valuable garden and orchard of more than seven acres in extent, producing, in abundance, all British fruits and vegetables; and the spot is enriched with the best fruits of the south of Europe, and the choicest forest trees and garden flowers. The estate is tenanted and ably superintended by Mr. Duffield, who has very successfully cultivated the hop, and manufactured the wine known as 'Echunga Hock,' in flavour resembling Moselle. A substantial wind-mill has lately been erected close to the farm premises.

"East of the Three Brothers, and spreading south of Mount Barker to the source of the Angas, lies the 'Davenport Survey,'—a pretty country, lightly timbered, and presenting, with its open and undulating scenery, a park-like appearance. In a few of its richest valleys, where water is more accessible, a like system of location is carried on. A man con-

structs his cottage, opens a spring of water, forms a garden, and encloses a field or paddock, keeps a few head of cattle, grows his own grain, and frequently kills his own meat. Many English, Scotch, and Irish, are thus scattered about. Some are possessed of drays and bullocks, and the few farm implements which are needed, and thus rendered more independent. Those who have them not, get accommodation, generally, by a species of barter with a neighbour, of labour produce. But little money is had or circulated in the country.

"The township of this survey has been named 'Macclesfield,' in honour of the late Earl, not judiciously, I think, as the association, to strangers, would revert to the large town of that name in England, whereas the spot has the character only of a pretty rural village. The native name is 'Kangowirranilla,'—meaning, it is said, the place for kangaroo and water. The site is planned on the sources of the Angas, whose bubbling stream winds through the village, with a copious and unceasing supply of the purest water—sufficient, and the fall may be available, to turn an overshot wheel of great power. A few tradesmen, such as carpenters, wheelwrights, tailors, shoemakers, and blacksmiths, are settled here, and have always occupation. There is need of more such. A medical practitioner, Dr. Cotter, resides here. Mr. Samuel Davenport has a stone-built substantial cottage, and is extensively cultivating—with his other broader occupations, the

grape and other fruits on the slopes verging the stream.

"Here, also, is a place of worship, and the Rev. Mr. Austin, who has a pretty estate in the neighbourhood, on which he resides, with a large family, has most liberally tendered his services as a pastor. He regularly supplies the pulpit-desk, for which a cultivated mind, previous habits, and religious devotion, have eminently qualified him. A congregation — numerous and respectable — assembles on the Sabbath, in the morning, and alternate afternoons, either at Mount Barker or Strathalbyn, which places Mr. Austin then visits to conduct public worship. The Governor has appropriated and reserved for common use around this township, an extent of country—in itself, least available for agriculture—denominated Park-land. The villagers, who, together, have a considerable herd of cattle, use it as common pasture land. As the day sinks to repose, in the soft lustre of retiring eve, the children return with their village charge, whose approach may be known by the tinkling of the bell, or the bellow of the cattle; and you are reminded of some of the most peaceful and serene of home-associations, where—

"The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea."

"A resident in a new country, where society is emerging from its most infant condition, is led easily to account for the origin and establishment of some

of the fundamental common-law rights of the mother land.

"Lower down the stream, about seven miles, is the township of Strathalbyn, belonging to the 'Angas Survey.' This was taken by Dr. Rankin, and other Scotch proprietors; it bears evident signs of Scotch enterprise and success. Dr. Rankin's place is quite picturesque. His house stands on a rocky eminence, overlooking the bed of the Angas, and the high craggy rocks which skirt some portion of its channel. He has diverted the stream of the river to irrigate, at pleasure, his fertile garden and potatoe lands.

"The occupiers on this survey are numerous; some quite wealthy, in amount of sheep and cattle. The township enlarges, has a good sized inn, and store-house, commodious for travellers, to and from Wellington and Lake Victoria.

"The 'Meadows Survey,' lies to the south and east of the 'Three Brothers.' This contains excellent land, and has produced some of the heaviest wheat grown in the colony. Generally, I think, it is more sheltered from the north by the hills in the back ground; and the subsoil frequently being clay, which I consider best for wheat lands in a warm climate, accounts partly for the farmer's success. Last year, wheat was grown here, by Messrs. Stamford, of the weight of 66lbs. 2oz. to the imperial bushel.

"The farm I purchased soon after I arrived in the

colony, and which I occupied whilst there, is a portion of this survey; 300 acres are now apportioned off, and enclosed, by three and four post and rail fences. I found it exceedingly productive of European grains and fruits, of almost every description. I have orchards and plantations of the apple, peach, almond, &c. and some hundreds of trees. The olive thrives, and the best varieties of the grape; though beautiful in growth, I doubt if the orange will ripen its fruit on the hills. My best trees I got from Mr. McArthur's garden in New South Wales. I have encouraged a few mechanics and labourers to settle around me, whose employ I could at any time command, and who, by reason of their productive little homesteads placing them in so independent a position, I have never found to be any incumbrance. I have named the place 'Battunga,' after the native appellation, which the natives interpret to mean 'the place of large trees.' The native names are not only significant, but, generally, melodious, and I think there is some interest in adopting them, wherever practicable, in place of any foreign names. They appear to have a designation which is expressive of some peculiarity, for every spot or location.

"Messrs. Stamford have a large farm and dairy here: I have seen tons of cheese on their premises; they were farmers formerly in Kent. Lieutenant Dashwood has large and complete farm premises also. His place, enclosed by hills, is very pretty,

as well as productive. He has a valuable breed of short-horn cattle about him.

"The 'Greenhill's Survey,' south and east of the Meadows, has a considerable breadth of rich land, some of the best agricultural slopes in the colony, and its grazing qualities seem to be superior; the scenery generally is hilly, sometimes very steep, but expands to a flat of great extent, making the view truly noble at some points, where it embraces the magnificent and soft verdure of a park. The eye surveys a scene, worthy, even in its wild luxuriance, to rank with the princely domains of this country. With a graceful outline of hills, exposing, more or less, in bold prominence, bright verdure, or rocky frontage, is contrasted the gloom of surrounding ravines, down which streams fall to the Finniss, whose plains, opening below, afford you, in the distance, a view of Lake Alexandrina, Point Malcolm on the opposite shore, and the white sand-banks of the Coorong. This survey belongs to several proprietors, most of whom, I believe, are resident in this country.

"The foregoing may supply a slight acquaintance with that part of the colony, with which I am better acquainted. I have no wish to disparage any other, which have the same kind of attractions, and are undergoing a like progress. The roads, throughout, and connecting these several surveys, are generally very good, naturally.

"If the notions of the great Sir Walter Raleigh,

who has been styled the "Father of Colonization," are sound, as to the inevitable growth and enlargement of a nation, with our government, institutions, climate and country, we, surely, promise to be great, populous, and wealthy. The climate is very agreeable, and so frequently chilly, that I would recommend to any one about to become a resident on the hills, the providing a good supply of warm English clothes.

"In some places, either in streams or water holes, there is permanent surface water; and generally, plenty for all purposes. The winter rains, when I was in the colony, were excessive; summer showers occasionally fell. The farm produce, I have said, is abundant and excellent. I am hardly able, confidently, to speak to average amounts, neither do I think it altogether desirable. Soils vary; situation, aspect, and other causes, materially influence the eligibility of spots; some of the more favoured of which, will yield, I should believe, equal to any alluvial land in the world. Soils are more or less sandy, loamy, stiff or clayey, or contain greater quantities of vegetable mould, as they do in this country. The farm implements in use, generally, are made in the neighbourhood, and are preferable to those imported. The ox is in general use for draft purposes, but I think horses will be commonly introduced for tillage, and home work. The former is better for turning up new lands, and for the steady draft required on the roads.

"In Australia,—as, I suppose, on wild lands in all new countries,—you readily tell, by the species of timber seen growing, what is the quality of the soil, and in some cases the nature of the subsoil. The differences are soon known. On the hills, the most hungry looking soils grow trees of the stateliest dimensions, but of a particular kind only—commonly called the stringy bark—a very serviceable timber in the construction of houses, farm premises, and fences. There is vast abundance of it. All our best lands are encompassed by these hilly forests. Settlers are allowed full liberty to take what they please for their own purposes, but any man working in the forest as an independent trader, the law requires him to have a license from the Government, whch costs £1, and has to be renewed annually.

"I am disposed to account for the lesser density of the forests in Australia, to those of cooler regions—such as New Zealand and Van Diemen's Land—to the more destructive effect of fires during the summer. Formerly, and before the increase of cattle and sheep kept under the herbage, these must have raged with a much more awful effect. They consume quantities of the dead and fallen timber, and kill much which has the vigour of life and age.

"I am not able to classify, or technically to allude to, our native grasses. The species, I judge, are numerous, and very nourishing, and during a great portion of the year present a bright and meadow-like appearance. A species of wild oat has perhaps

most substance. The sward on some spots is as fine and close as need be.

"We have, in the Mount Barker district, good and useful building stone, slate, and marble. Abundance of limestone. Just previous to leaving the colony, I purchased of the Government a hilly eminence, which appears to be a solid mass of the purest limestone; many cart loads had been dug out. We have, also, brick earth, which is occasionally used.

"At Mount Barker, cockatoos, parrots, &c., pilfer our grain very much. Cockatoos very soon find out a newly sown piece of land. Parrots often inhabit a wheat rick as do sparrows at home.

"We have no annoyance from insects, except occasionally, in the summer months, by a musquito fly; and one season a species of grub proved destructive to a variety of plants.

"In conclusion, I would just observe, that as neighbourhoods rise, families grow up, and population increases, it is very desirable that some adequate supply of the means of religious instruction and suitable education, accompany such a progressive condition of the community.

"At Mount Barker, especially, there is needed a clergyman,* and it is believed that a man who really valued the duties which would devolve upon him in his office, would find support there, and his position one of extending interest. Here are a number of residents, anxious for their own edification, and the

* Vide Note, page 126.

instruction of their children, and who are more attached to the form of worship adopted in the establishment.

"And let me, for a moment, revert you, to your classic associations.

"In South Australia we have the climate of Greece, and, I imagine, all the elements which constituted the greatness of that ancient world.

"What shall forbid us to be—some future day—as distinguished in the temple of fame, and far more illustrious in the temple of virtue! Our laurels, like our evergreen foliage, need never fade. Our conquests will be those of peace; our triumphs, those of truth!

"Alone in the ocean, as is Australia—free from foreign control, or native power—the people essentially British in character, institutions, and habits—is it not their destiny to exercise vast influence over the Southern world—to encircle the beautiful and teeming Islands of the Pacific—and to roll even a tide of light to the broad East!

"Of the Ancients, let us retain their monuments of genius,—to adorn our cities—to fire our senate; but let us not forget that we possess a wisdom which they never knew,—which informs *us* of eternal laws, which points *us* to a 'Known God,' and Redeemer."

CHAPTER VI.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COLONY, AND CIVIL AND MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS.

Estimate of Expenditure for 1846.

		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1	Governor and Judge .	2300	0	0			
					2300	0	0
	CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.						
2	Governor's Establishment .	440	0	0			
3	Councils . . .	275	0	0			
4	Col. Secretary's Department	1164	0	0			
5	Col. Treasurer's Deptmt .	700	0	0			
6	Auditor General's Deptmt	350	0	0			
7	Customs Department .	1747	0	0			
8	Survey and Land Deptmt .	1804	18	0			
9	Deptmt. of Public Works .	769	1	0			
10	Post-office Department .	993	3	9			
11	Colonial Store Department	200	0	0			
12	Medical Department .	539	3	6			
13	Harbour Department .	1255	0	0			
14	Police Department .	6835	17	9			
15	Inspector of Weights and measures . . .	60	0	0			
16	Aborigines Department .	820	0	0			
17	Commissioner Public Lands	300	0	0			
18	Port Lincoln . . .	430	0	0			
					18,683	4	0

JUDICIAL.

		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
19	Supreme Court Office .	552	0	0			
20	Law Officers . . .	500	0	0			
21	Register General's Deptmt	600	0	0			
22	Sheriff's Office . .	410	0	0			
23	Resident Magistrate's Court	622	0	0			
24	Ditto at River Murray .	300	0	0			
25	Coroner	180	0	0			
26	Bench of Magistrates .	120	0	0			
27	Gaol Establishment . .	848	1	6			
					4132	1	6
28	Colonial Chaplain . .	350	0	0			
					350	0	0
29	Miscellaneous . . .	3514	0	0			
					3514	0	0
					£28,979	5	6

A. M. MUNDY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Government of the colony is vested in the Governor, and is assisted by the Legislative Council; there is, besides, an Executive Council, for the hearing of appeals from the superior courts, composed of the Governor and the three highest government officers. His Excellency has had to support his dignity, hitherto, on the very meagre salary of £1000. per annum. It has now been increased by one half. The Council, formerly, consisted only of the Governor and four other official members; since the passing of the Act for the better government of South Australia, it is composed of materials more congenial to the colonists, and may be looked upon

as a first step towards a representative assembly. The members are all selected by his Excellency, who has the power to suspend, but cannot remove, the non-official members, without the consent of Her Majesty first obtained. They are—

His Excellency the Governor Colonial Secretary Advocate-General Registrar-General	Official.
Thomas Shuldam O'Halloran, Esq. John Morphett, Esq. Jacob Hagen, Esq. Charles Harvey Bagot, Esq.	Non-official.

The Members of Council are styled, Honourable.

The Governor retains a casting vote in addition to his vote as a member. A very neat Council chamber has been built close to Government House, the furniture of which, being made of colonial mahogany, called blackwood, has a very elegant appearance.

Although the Council as at present constituted works satisfactorily, it is hoped, that the time may not be far distant, when Her Majesty may see fit to grant us a Representative Assembly; Guizot, in his "Histoire de la Civilization," lays down the principle that, "Nulle taxe n'est légitime, si elle n'est consentée par celui qui doit la payer, . . . ce maxime fait partie de ce trésor de justice, et de bon sens que le genre humain ne perd jamais tout entier." We are sufficiently impatient to see this

maxim applied to South Australia, which contains a far greater amount of respectability, and superior intelligence, in proportion to the number of inhabitants, than is generally supposed could be the case. The taxes which the colonists have paid since the year 1837, are as follows:—

1837	Administration of Governor Hindmarsh	£386
1838	Ditto, and Colonel Gawler	2,030
1839	Colonel Gawler	19,826
1840	Ditto	30,199
1841	Ditto, and Governor Grey	26,720
1842	Governor Grey	22,074
1843	Ditto	24,142
1844	Ditto	27,878
1845	Ditto	29,283
		£182,538

This is no trifling sum to have been paid, without having had a word to say in the manner of its levying or application.

The Official Establishment of the Governor consists of a Private Secretary, Captain O'Halloran (who acts also as Clerk of the Council), an Assistant Private Secretary, and a Chief Clerk.

The Colonial Secretary's Department.—Colonial Secretary, Hon. A. M. Mundy, (salary £600) and four subordinate officers.—Mr. Mundy was formerly Private Secretary to Governor Grey, who, on the retirement of Mr. Jackson, promoted him to this office.

The Treasury.—The Treasurer, Mr. Gouger, is absent on leave, and not expected to return, (salary £500)—this office is temporarily filled by the acting Registrar-General, Mr. Macdonald. One clerk is found sufficient to conduct the active duties of the office. Captain Sturt, I believe, is to receive the appointment of Treasurer, on his return from his exploration.

Auditor-General's Department.—Auditor-General, Mr. W. Maturin, who is also Dep. Asst. Com. General of the Forces.

Mr. Maturin has been complimented by the public papers for the very clear and lucid arrangement of his financial Accounts Current. As Adelaide appears now to have been selected as a permanent military station, arrangements will doubtless have been entered into to allow of Mr. Maturin's being permanently stationed at Adelaide, and his services continued in this office, for which he is peculiarly qualified.

The Customs Department.—Collector (£350), Senior Landing Waiter (£200), Chief Clerk (£180), and eight subordinate officers; Mr. Torrens, the son of Colonel Torrens, the chairman of the original Board of Commissioners, to whose talented services the colony was so much indebted in the early years of its existence, is the Collector; this Department has for the last twelve months been taken under the direct control of the Board of Customs in London.

The Import Duties consist of the following items:

On spirits, produce of United Kingdom or Possessions, 8*s.* per gallon. All other spirits, 12*s.* per gallon. Wines, *ad valorem* 15 per cent. All other goods 5 per cent. Cigars, 5*s.* per lb. Manufactured tobacco and snuff, 2*s.* per pound. All other tobacco, except stalks, 1*s.* 6*d.* per pound. These, with some minor articles, form the principal source of Customs revenue, which produce about £21,000 per annum.

In order to meet the deficiency in the Customs receipts by the abolition of every description of Port charge, which amounted to about £2,100 per annum, His Excellency obtained the sanction of the Council to alter the rates of duties on the following articles, *pro rata*, as under:—

Tea, henceforth to be charged with a duty of 2*d.* per lb. Coffee, 4*s.* per cwt. Rice, 1*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Sugar, 2*s.* per cwt. Refined, 4*s.* per cwt. Draught beer, 3*d.* per gallon. Bottled beer, 4*d.* per gallon. From these sources, His Excellency calculates on an addition of £1,270—thus making the actual loss only £600 or 800 per annum, which cannot for a moment be put in comparison with the immense benefit to accrue to the colony from the abolition of the port dues.

The articles enumerated above, on which the duty has been increased to meet the deficiency caused by the abolishment of the port dues, are those which may be taken to form a direct tax on the whole population, as they comprise items of daily and

very extensive consumption. The duties on spirits and tobacco are, of course, indirect taxes, as no one is forced to either drink spirits or smoke tobacco. The total amount of imports, amounted for the year ending 5th January, 1845, £119,648. 18*s.* 3*d.*, of which £63,635 were from Great Britain, and £54,693 from British colonies. Colonial manufactures have been, within the last twelve months, considerably increased, by which many articles, formerly obtained from England, will be in future dispensed with, and our exports, which, in 1844, stood in the proportion of £82,268 to £106,660.—the amount of imports consumed in the colony,—have, in the year 1845,* exceeded them; the unparalleled richness and quantity of precious ores now being extracted from the copper and lead mines, will, from this year forward, produce a still larger balance in favour of our colony.

*. Judging from the accounts that have, from time to time, come to my hands, during the last ten months, I am warranted in estimating the amount of exports for the year 1845 as under:—

Wool	£70,000
Corn of all sorts, and flour .	30,000
Oil and whalebone . .	5,000
Gum	12,000
Copper and lead ores . .	40,000
All other articles . .	3,000
	£160,000

Which will leave an immense balance in favour of the colony.

Survey and Land Department.—Surveyor-General, E. C. Frome, Esq. Captain in the Royal Engineers, (£700); Deputy Surveyor-General, Thos. Burr, Esq. (£350); three subordinate officers, and a detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners. Captain Frome has personally and thoroughly inspected all parts of the colony, where it was likely a demand for land might ensue, and the most minute information can now be obtained in the Survey office, of the quality and situation of any portion of land which the colonist may require.

To the scientific attainments of Mr. Deputy Surveyor-General Burr, the colony is indebted, not only for many beautiful and elaborate maps, but also for valuable information on the geology and mineralogy of the Province, Mr. Burr being an eminent mineralogist.

Post Office Department.—Postmaster-General, John Watts, Esq. and two clerks. Whenever a vessel arrives from England, the Postmaster-General's good humour is sorely tried by the impatience of the inhabitants, who are so eager to receive their letters, that they make no allowance for the time absolutely necessary to sort the immense mails which usually arrive by them, with the small force at his disposal.

Inland mails are regularly despatched to and from the Port to Mount Barker and the south country, and Gawler Town in the north, which is now to be extended to Angas Park, Kapunda, &c.

His Excellency has also placed a sum on the estimate to establish an overland mail to Rivoli Bay, and Portland Bay, from whence a postal communication already exists with Port Phillip and thence to Sydney, so that we shall have an unbroken land communication from Adelaide to Sydney, which will be of immense advantage to both colonies. The rates of postage are rather high in these "penny post" cheap days.

Colonial Storekeeper, Thos. Gilbert Esq., salary £200. This is a department which is of little or no use, and will probably soon be abolished. Formerly, before the present system of "tenders" introduced by Captain Grey came into force, the articles required for the use of Government were all delivered to the Colonial Storekeeper, who superintended their distribution whenever required. Parties tendering now for supplies, are expected to deliver those goods, themselves, in such quantities and places as may be specified. It may appear ridiculous to a stranger to see the advertisements in the papers, by the Colonial Secretary, calling for tenders for such things as a "penknife," or a "chair," or "table;" but the system is a good one, and it must apply to the most expensive, as to the most trifling article, to be effective.

Medical Department.—Colonial Surgeon, J. G. Nash, Esq. A medical board, consisting of the Colonial Surgeon, as president, and four of the leading physicians and surgeons, has been appointed to investigate the qualifications of

practitioners, who may wish to exercise their profession in the colony. The hospital is situated in part of the Park Lands, in a very airy and pleasant situation.

Harbour Department.—Harbour-master, Captain Lipson, R. N., salary £300: expense of pilot, boats' crews, light-ship, &c. is £955 per annum. Captain Lipson acts also as water Police Magistrate, assisted generally by another Justice of the Peace, in case, as is of not unfrequent occurrence, of disputes between the crews and commanders of vessels. During the whole time Captain Lipson has been Harbour-master, no accident of any moment has happened to any vessel, either entering or sailing out of our port. Although all and every port due is now abolished (a fact which will bear repetition over and over again) any vessel that may arrive in the Gulf will be furnished, as usual, with pilot, and all that assistance from the Harbour-master they were accustomed to under the former system. The Harbour-master has a substantial and convenient house appropriated to his use, the ground floor of which furnishes offices for the collector of customs.

Police Department.—The total expense to the colony of this force is £6835 1*s* 9*d* per annum, and consists of one Police Magistrate and Commissioner of Police, Captain Finniss, two inspectors of mounted police, and 38 non-commissioned officers and constables, and one sub-inspector, and 40 men in the Metropolitan foot police. Too much praise

cannot be bestowed on the whole of this corps; they are as efficient and respectable a body of men as could be found anywhere. It was first organized under Major O'Halloran's able superintendence, who sometime since resigned, when it passed into the hands of a no less deserving officer, who continues, like his predecessor, to merit the respect of the colonists. Strict sobriety, respectful demeanour, and uniform good behaviour, characterize this corps, both mounted and foot, and the encomiums bestowed upon them by the Governor and other members of Council, are no less merited, than they are often repeated. A new Police Act, 7 and 8 Vict. No. 19, was passed in 1844, providing for the regulation of the Police and the municipal government of cities and towns in the province. Two native constables are included in the above number; they are very useful, in the bush, to trace any native depredators; the keenness of their perception is most extraordinary, and they have several times done good service.

Aborigines Department.—Protector, Mr. Moorhouse, £300; Salaries of Schoolmaster and Mistress, provisions and miscellaneous expenses, £520; in all £820 per annum. The name of the office sufficiently explains itself. Mr. Moorhouse's duties consist in looking after the interest of the Aborigines, both in town and country, and to superintend the schools at the native locations. Mr. Moorhouse, is thoroughly conversant with the

native language, and possesses considerable influence over the different tribes which are in the habit of visiting Adelaide. Considering the miserable failure that has, in all the Australian colonies, attended almost every exertion on the part of the Government to make some progress in the civilization of the natives, a fact which is admitted by the different Protectors themselves, the continued expenditure on their education becomes a subject of much animadversion. There can be no doubt that, to do them good at all, they must be placed under considerable restraint, to break them of those roving habits, which has been the chief bar to their civilization; and in spite of long reports every quarter from the Protector, stating "how many can spell," "how many can read or write, &c." I, for one, maintain, that no corresponding good has ever resulted from the outlay of the money; and a great deal more positive benefit would accrue to these poor people, if the annual grant were expended in providing a *regular supply of food* for them, as their means of procuring it for themselves are daily becoming more circumscribed, according as the country is cultivated and settled upon by the Europeans.

A writer on this subject, in the colony, has the following graphic remarks, in speaking of the last Report:—

"The schools for native boys and girls, we are informed, have been conducted on the 'usual plan.' No doubt of it; and with the usual results, and the

the usual success. Eight years the usual plan has been at work, and not the fraction of a native can be produced to shew that the smallest good has been gained. Yet we believe the Protector and his assistants 'have laboured with commendable diligence and earnestness; but it is the system—the 'usual plan'—that we quarrel with, not with the individuals who strive to conquer its impossibilities. When the missionaries began to teach the natives in their own jargon, we endeavoured to shew them the difficulty of conveying to their minds new ideas for which their meagre vocabulary possessed no equivalents; and their subsequent instruction in English has been very nearly as wide of the mark— for all practical purposes as worthless and ridiculous. The attempt to instruct the young savage in arithmetic when his fingers are sufficient for all the knowledge of Cocker he is ever likely to need, or to hold reading or writing to be preliminary steps to civilization instead of digging, shews a lamentable ignorance of the first principles by which knowledge suited to their condition is to be attained. But the effort to convey religious instruction to these children, under their present circumstances, is almost an outrage upon common sense—the very perfection of zeal, without prudence or discretion. Yet the Protector coolly states, that out of ninety children, of whom *three* only have been in regular attendance, fifty actually know, in addition to the cardinal points of Christianity, the '*nature* of future rewards

and punishments!' Verily, we take upon ourselves to declare, that if this assertion be correct, the black children of South Australia are more deeply versed in holy mysteries than the Bench of Bishops, and that their theological learning exceeds, by a long chalk, that of their teachers."

Mr. Moorhouse, has, however, always zealously performed the duties belonging to his department, and in other respects been of much use, and done good service to the Aborigines generally.

Commissioner of Public Lands, £300. *per annum*. This office is very ably filled by Charles Bonney, Esq. His Excellency, Governor Grey, shewed his usual discrimination in selecting this gentleman, when he was recommended to him as being peculiarly qualified for it. Mr. Bonney was at the time resident in New South Wales, and has for years past had the reputation of being one of the best "bushmen" in any of the colonies. He was, also, the first to open the over-land line of communication between New South Wales and South Australia, on which occasion, he shewed great skill and judgment in conducting the party through the totally unknown country. The road once ascertained to be practicable, numerous other parties followed with stock, by which means the colony in a short time became abundantly supplied with both sheep and cattle.

Mr. Bonney's office is one of great difficulty; his duties consist in superintending the location of the numerous sheep and cattle runs, the collection of

assessment on stocks, the definition of boundaries between the different stations, and the settlement of disputes, which are constantly occurring amongst the settlers themselves, by encroaching on each other's territory. To an intimate acquaintance with his intricate duties and strict impartiality, he adds the most imperturbable good temper, — an essential quality, where his decisions are almost sure to give offence to either one or the other; nor has he hesitated, by them, to sacrifice his private friendship to his duty as a public officer.

The Law Officers. — Chief Justice, His Honour Charles Cooper, salary £800. Advocate-general, Hon. William Smillie, £400; Registrar-general, Captain Sturt, £400.; Sheriff, C. B. Newenham, Esq. £350.; Master of Court, Charles Mann, Esq., £300.; Resident Magistrate, Mr. Wigley, £400.; Coroner, £150. These are the principal law officers of the colony, and their respective salaries; the expense attending the judicial branch of the Government for salaries of subordinate officers is near about £1000. per annum more.

The laws of England, with those enacted by the colonial legislature, which have to be confirmed at home, are administered by the Judge, who presides in the supreme court of the Province. The sessions are periodical, and Mr. Cooper is judge in the several Departments of Equity, Civil and Criminal Law. An appeal from his decision lies to the Governor in Council. The constitution of the court

and the mode of trial, are similar to what appertain to the courts of Westminster.

I must not omit to record, here, the very universal estimation, in which our worthy and amiable judge is held in the colony.

According to the Registration Act, 5 Vic. No. 8, all deeds, conveyances, contracts in writing, other than leases for periods not exceeding three years, and all wills and devises in writing and judgments, must be registered at the Registry Office, otherwise they are considered void. No judgment entered on a cognovit or warrant of attorney, nor any bill of sale or assignment is available for any creditor who may subsequently obtain judgment against the person giving the same, unless registered or executed within five days after it has been given, and possession of the goods be taken and kept.

This Act has had a very beneficial effect in the colony, and adds much to the security, and facilitates the transfer of property. Births, deaths, and marriages, are also registered in this office.

Among the miscellaneous expenditure, amounting to £3514., there appears a sum £1500. for the payment of interest on debentures.

The infliction of this debt on the colony, and the misapplication of the emigration fund, will never cease to be a standing subject of reproach to the mother country, and our present ability to pay other people's debts only aggravates the injustice of it, as the money ought to be applied to the wants of the colony.

Since the latter end of 1841, a detachment of the 96th Regiment has been quartered in Adelaide, commanded by Captain Villers Butler.

The sources from whence the public income is derived are enumerated as follows, in round numbers:

Customs	£21,000
Postage	820
Fines and Fees	2,050
Licenses	2,510
Depasturing Stock	1,750
Miscellaneous	1,470
	£29,600

Return of the amount of Mortgages on Land in the Province of South Australia, registered during the years 1843 *and* 1844.

	1843.	1844.
Amount lent on Town Lands	£ 4,182 19 8	£ 1,155 0 0
" " Country Lands	14,196 17 4	13,860 10 6
" " Town and Country	3,709 14 6	5,022 11 0
Totals	£22,089 11 6	£20,038 1 6

J. W. MACDONALD, Acting Registrar-General.

Registrar-General's Office, 31st January, 1845.

Return of liabilities secured by Bills of Sale, Judgments, and Warrants of Attorney, registered during the years 1843 *and* 1844.

	1843.	1844.
Bills of Sale	£17,748 16 7	£16,395 9 4
Judgments	1,089 19 7	532 6 0
Warrants of Attorney	8,214 8 2	5,206 0 0
Totals	£27,053 4 4	£22,133 15 4

J. W. MACDONALD, Acting Registrar-General.

Registrar-General's Office, 31st January, 1845.

Comparative Return of the Number of Offenders convicted in the Province of South Australia, in the Years ending September 30, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, *and* 1844.

IN THE SUPREME COURT.					
FELONIES.	Years ending Sept. 30.				
	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844
Murder	—	1	—	3	—
Stabbing, cutting, or shooting with intent to kill, or do some bodily harm	—	—	2	1	1
Manslaughter	—	—	1	—	—
Highway robbery	4	1	—	—	1
Assault, with intent to rob	2	2	—	1	—
Burglary	2	1	—	1	—
Stealing in a dwelling-house	7	3	4	1	—
Burglariously breaking and entering dwelling-house, and stealing therefrom	—	—	—	2	—
Breaking and entering dwelling-house, and stealing therefrom	4	—	1	2	—
Stealing in dwelling-house, and putting the persons therein in bodily fear	4	—	—	—	—
Sheep-stealing	1	—	3	2	1
Horse-stealing	—	1	—	1	—
Cattle-stealing	—	—	4	3	1
Receiving stolen goods	1	1	—	—	2
Larceny	16	20	11	5	11
Larceny and former conviction	—	—	—	1	—
Stealing from the person	—	3	6	1	—
Stealing in a warehouse	1	1	1	—	—
Forgery	1	—	1	—	—
Uttering forged notes, orders, &c., with intent to defraud	—	—	—	1	—
Total felonies	43	34	34	25	17
MISDEMEANORS.					
Assault, intent to commit rape	—	1	—	—	—
Fraud	1	—	2	—	1
Assault	3	2	—	1	3
Total Misdemeanors	4	3	2	1	4
Total Convictions	47	37	36	26	21
IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS OF THE PEACE.					
FELONIES.					
Receiving stolen goods	—	—	—	1	—
Larceny	—	—	—	1	4
Larceny and former conviction	—	—	—	2	—
Total Felonies	—	—	—	4	4
MISDEMEANORS.					
Uttering counterfeit coin	—	—	—	1	—
Total Misdemeanors	—	—	—	1	—
Total Convictions	—	—	—	5	4
Total Convictions in the Supreme Court	47	37	36	26	21
Total Convictions in the Court of General Sessions of the Peace	—	—	—	5	4
Total	47	37	36	31	25

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, October 24, 1845.

CHAPTER VII.

LAND SALES REGULATIONS.

Much has been written, and much will doubtless again be written, on the prolific subject of the disposal of the waste lands belonging to the Crown, in the Australian colonies. Many have been the opinions expressed, as to the policy of fixing a high or low value on those lands, but I believe all are pretty well agreed, by this time, that the system of disposing of those lands, according to the present plan of one uniform scale of value, and the application of the proceeds to emigration, has been, in practice, the most satisfactory in its results. What, indeed, can be wiser than the provision, that requires the proceeds of the land sold, to be appropriated in making that land available and productive, by the introduction of able-bodied labourers and their families; and although at first sight, to a person who is not in a position to judge of the relative advantages offered to the emigrant, in choosing the place of his future domicile, it might appear, that preference should be given to those countries, where land is cheapest, as in America and Canada, the Australian colonies will bear the strictest scrutiny, and convince the most sceptic, that the higher price of land here, is more than compensated by the superior climate, the absence of rigorous winters, and the infinitely less expense in bringing that land into cultivation, and making it productive in the first season.

Lord Stanley does not assume that all the land in Australia is worth 20*s.* an acre; in his despatch to Governor Grey, when transmitting the new Act regulating the Land Sales, he expresses comprehensive views on the subject, which are sufficiently important to warrant my drawing the reader's attention to them by an extract:

"The main principle of this Act is, however, that which Her Majesty's Government have for many years past invariably maintained; the principle that the waste lands of the Crown shall never be alienated except by sale. All gratuitous grants of land will henceforward be absolutely illegal and void. The only exception to this rule, (if, indeed, it can properly be described as an exception) will arise in the case of the reservation of lands for purposes in which the public at large have a direct interest. They are minutely enumerated in the third section of the Act.

"The Royal Commission authorising you to alienate waste lands on behalf of Her Majesty, and the Royal instructions prescribing in detail how that power is to be exercised, are superseded by this Act. The power of sale and conveyance will henceforth be vested in you by the authority of Parliament, and by the same authority you will be guided in the exercise of that power. Among the regulations to which it will thus be your duty to adhere, the most important are those which relate to the division of the colony under your Government into any number of territorial districts, not exceeding four, for the purposes of the Act, should you be of opinion that it is expedient to adopt different sums respectively as the minimum for the upset price of land in different parts; the distinction of the lands to be sold into three separate classes; the fixing a minimum price on the lands of each class; the sale of lands of the more valuable class by auction only, and the sale of country lots by private contract, after they shall have been put up to auction. I do not enter into any minute explanation of the motives of these regulations, because your own experience will enable you to anticipate any

such statement. It may be enough to say, that the principle of sales by auction appears more applicable to the case of lands likely to be occupied for building, or for gardens, or as pleasure-grounds, than to the case of lands only fit to be occupied for the purpose of agriculture or pasturage. In the one case there is an accidental local value, which will best be ascertained by public competition. In the other case, when it has been ascertained by an ineffectual auction that no such competition can be raised, there appears to be no good reason why the lands should not be sold at the upset price of the time. This distinction you will, therefore, find established in this Act.

"The most important general principle of the law which remains to be noticed, is that which determines that no waste land of the Crown shall ever be sold at less than 20*s.* an acre.

"In fixing this sum Her Majesty's Government have not proceeded on the assumption that the whole of the land in the colony under your Government which may be profitably occupied, would, if offered for sale, realize (or its worth) at the present moment that price; they are aware that there are large tracts now occupied for grazing purposes of a value inferior to the standard thus adopted; and by the provisions of the 17th section, care has been taken to relieve you from the necessity of attempting to force sales of such land, by enabling you to draw a revenue from its permissive occupation. Nor is it to such tracts only that Her Majesty's Government are aware the price of 20*s.* an acre is at present inapplicable; they are conscious that the same observation would apply to many portions of the more settled and richer districts. These circumstances, however, do not appear to them to militate against the course they have taken on this subject; on the contrary, they consider it desirable that the more fertile and valuable portions of land in the colony should be first brought into cultivation, trusting to the operation of progressive settlement to render saleable hereafter many qualities of land not at present of a marketable value.

"Having thus stated the views which have led to the adoption of so high a minimum price for the sale of waste lands as that

fixed by the bill, I must also advert to the power which is reserved to you by the 9th section of the Act, of raising that price, and I do so merely to impress upon you the necessity of exercising it with great caution; the inconvenience which must result from its being found requisite to advise Her Majesty to disallow acts done by you for that purpose being too obvious to require to be dwelt upon."

The Governor has very seldom thought it advisable to raise the minimum price of £1. per acre for land that was put up to public auction; even land known to contain copper or other metals was put up at £1. per acre, as the competition was sure to bring up the price to the highest possible value that could be obtained for it. I may instance the Montacute copper mines, 80 acres, put up at £80. and sold for £1,550., and the 100 acres adjoining Kapunda, which were put up at £100. fetched £2,210.

To purchase land for grazing purposes, considering the enormous extent of our flocks and herds, and the fact of from two to three acres being necessary to feed one sheep, for all the year, is out of the question,—that every one admits. Then, as regards the land requisite for cultivation; it is, as Lord Stanley very justly observes, desirable, that the fertile lands should be first brought into cultivation; and land, which for several seasons consecutively will produce twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre, without the aid of manure, and little or no clearing, of which there is abundance in the colony, I maintain is worth a pound an acre. At this price,

any one may buy as much, or as little, as he is willing, or has capital to cultivate; and it has the undoubted advantage of preventing large capitalists from monopolizing an extensive tract of country, for the sole purpose of afterwards selling it at far higher prices, than what they now complain, the Government demands for it.* The industrious labourer, who in the course of a year or two may save a little money, has therefore always the prospect of becoming an independent landowner himself, in spite of what Mr. McCulloch may say to the contrary; for the Governor does not restrict the purchase of land to any large quantities, but is always ready to afford people of small capital the means of acquiring the number of acres suited to his circumstances, with the option of increasing the size of his farm afterwards.

When the colony was first established, and it became desirable to sell a large quantity of land to raise funds, several inducements were held out to purchasers, to tempt them to embark their money in buying what they had not seen, or, to use a homely expression "a pig in a poke;" up to that period, the Crown had made a reservation in all grants of land in the other Australian colonies, which is still in force, of minerals, timber, &c.; not so with regard to the new colony; the purchasers of land in South

* Even, as it is, the evil of absentee-proprietorship, of large quantities of land is felt in the Colony; what would it be were the price 10*s.* or 5*s*, an acre, instead of 20*s.*?

Australia were assured by virtue of powers contained in an Act of Parliament, of "everything above and everything below the soil." One would fancy from this, that the British Government had been particularly favourably disposed to the new province, in making this distinction; but they deserve no thanks for it, as they doubtless never dreamt of what was hidden under the soil, and probably judged of that portion of the Australian continent from what was known of the already settled districts, where no metals had ever been discovered. I say, they deserve no thanks for this apparent concession, for no sooner is the land found to contain abundance of the valuable metals, than a bill is brought into Parliament to upset the former enactment, and to reserve the rights of the Crown, which were a few years before, by the solemn compact of an act of Parliament, relinquished. The measure, it is true, was withdrawn; and it is to be hoped will not be again brought forward, particularly as the Ministers have since then had the additional assistance of the experience of the Governor, who states that he felt a strong objection to such reservations; and that he thought such a system was an unnecessary interference with the traffic of the country, and tended to retard its prosperity, for the great distance we are from the principal market, England, and the other disadvantages we necessarily labour under in working the mines, more than counterbalance the apparent ad-

vantage we possess over Cornish mines in not paying any royalty.

We have, therefore, in this particular, an immense advantage over the other colonies, forming another, and all convincing reason, why South Australia should be preferred over all its competitors, as a place to which the emigrant, whether capitalist or labourer, should direct his steps.

The regulations in force in the colony, for the disposal of the waste lands, are substantially as follows:—

1. At least once in every quarter one public sale is to be held by auction.
2. Lands to be divided into three classes; town, suburban, and country lots.
3. Intended sales to be notified by proclamation.
4. Sales to be notified not earlier than three months, nor later than one month, before day of sale.
5. Government to fix time of sale and size of allotments.
6. Application for land may be made in particular localities.
7. Regulating the manner in which land is to be brought forward for sale.
8. Deposit of 10 per cent. to be paid, and remainder in one month.
9. Condition of sale to be announced.
10. Country and special country lots put up and not bid for, may be claimed without competition.
11. The same, after deposit has been forfeited.
12. Full price must in these cases at once be paid.
13. Form of application.
14. Money intended for payment of land will at any time be received.

15, 16. Certificates of payments given in London, &c.

17. Land receipts transferable.

18. No regulation yet issued with regard to remissions to retired military and naval officers.

19. Priority of application determined by the date.

20. Deeds to contain grant of everything above and everything below the soil.

21. Government reserves sea coast to 100 feet of high-water mark.

22. No quit rent reserved.

23. Fees payable.

24. Persons may apply for 20,000 acres without competition, price to be never less than 20*s* per acre.

By the 10th clause it is enacted, that after land has once been put up to auction, and not bid for, any one may at a subsequent period claim the section or sections he wishes to possess at the minimum price of one pound per acre. Out of the 2 or 300,000 acres already surveyed and open for selection, it could not be expected that every section was so thoroughly inspected in every nook or corner by the Government surveyors, that the possibility might not have occurred, in some instances, of those sections containing mineral indications, which were only discovered by a very minute scrutiny. Now, whether by chance or otherwise I am not able to say, it was discovered last year, that out of a number of sections of land on the Oncaparinga River, 20 miles South of Adelaide, there were some which contained indications of the presence of copper ore of a very promising kind, although it had escaped the

notice of the surveyors. The party who discovered them immediately claimed two sections, and other parties the next day claimed three more, which, under the regulations in force, the Governor could not refuse. No sooner, however, was he aware of this, than he put a stop to it, by requiring that for the future, parties desiring to purchase any surveyed section of land under the provisions of the 10th clause of the regulations, should make the application in writing, when the Surveyor-General would first cause the sections to be re-examined, and on his reporting that it did not appear to contain any minerals, the applicant had the section allotted to him. No one can blame the Governor for doing so, as its object is to protect the land fund, by having such land put up to public competition in case of its containing minerals, when the real value would be sure to be given for it, whilst on the other hand it gave an equal chance to every colonist of competing for it.

Considerable misapprehension having, however, been caused from these alterations in the regulations, one of the members of Council, the Hon. John Morphett, was induced, during the last session, to ascertain His Excellency's opinion on this important subject, and I, therefore, insert the following extract of the proceedings of the Council on that day, as his Excellency's very lucid explanation, coupled with the above regulations themselves, will then put the reader in possession of every necessary in-

formation with regard to the manner in which the lands in South Australia are sold by the Government.

Mr Morphett put the following question to His Excellency, of which he had given notice on Friday; whether one of the effects of the late alterations of the Land Regulations has been to prevent land once put up to sale by auction, from being withdrawn from public competition, without a notification of such withdrawal in the Government Gazette; and whether the particular cases in which the reservations may be made, as mentioned in clause twenty of the regulations, are of a nature likely to impede the acquisition of lands containing mineral ores. He said that he felt it his bounden duty to put this question, and apologized if he had exceeded the strict bounds of propriety.

His Excellency said that he felt very great pleasure in being able to gratify the wishes of the Hon. Member, and he felt the more pleasure in doing so, that now at the close of the third session in which the Hon. Member had sat in Council, no question had been asked by him which had evinced a desire to embarrass the Government. But, moreover, he felt that nothing was more important to the welfare of the community, than a distinct understanding of the terms upon which land was sold by Government; in fact, it was one of those subjects on which no doubt or misconstruction ought ever to exist. He had accordingly, in the first place, endeavoured to arrange matters so that the most complete and unencumbered title should be given to purchasers; and, in the second place, to allow them free and unfettered choice in reference to the size of the blocks of land, so that every one should be able to compete for and to purchase quantities suited to his wants and circumstances; but it often happened that people would apply to have land surveyed which they would not afterwards purchase, and some wishing to monopolize might apply for 640 acres. If these should not be purchased, and if other parties should apply for smaller portions of the same land, it was proper that Government should have the

power to withdraw them from the market, in order to a subdivision. Frequently, also, roads are required through surveyed and unsold land, and such would be withdrawn on that account. Moreover, the instructions sent by the home Government had been very specific not to sell lands at the original price, to which circumstances of a local or accidental nature had given a greater value. In the neighbouring settlements various expedients had been adopted to give powers to Government in case of an alteration in circumstances or in value. The Government there made various reservations in the deeds of grant, such as rights of roads, railways, canals, the power of taking sand, timber, and all minerals. Large reservations were still made in the grants by Government in New South Wales. Now, he felt a strong objection to such reservations; he thought such a system was an unnecessary interference with the traffic of the country, and tended to retard its prosperity. Having briefly stated the principles of the system, he would explain what he had done in this province, and his reasons. Under the old land regulations there were more reservations, and the powers were not more ample, but he soon found himself in the position that land originally applied to be purchased for agricultural purposes was subsequently discovered to contain minerals. If such discovery was not made known to the public, it might be naturally supposed that the Governor or some of his officers would take advantage of their exclusive knowledge, and obtain the land at the lowest price. It had therefore been determined by the Executive Council that when the Surveyor General reported the existence of minerals, the land should be withdrawn. Since this determination of the Executive, lands had been withdrawn in two instances, and applications had afterwards been made for their purchase. One of them immediately after the resolution of Council, and one many months afterwards. With regard to the first, the Council resolved that, though they would derive a considerable sum from the sale, they could not depart from the principle laid down. The

Government could not know that the parties would apply, but when they applied it was thought proper to lose the chance of getting the money, than to break through the principle they had adopted. With reference to announcing the withdrawal of lands in the Gazette, he had not thought it proper to make a special proclamation of these withdrawals, as such course, he thought, would lead to confusion and misapprehension. He thought it was better that new lists of lands for sale without competition should be published from time to time, by comparing which, parties might see what had been withdrawn or sold; and he might mention, that the expense of these lists, which was considerable, would be a guarantee that Government would never capriciously, or without good reason, exercise the power which it possessed. Indeed, the whole scope of the regulations was to prevent the necessity of exercising extraordinary powers.

His Excellency then read the following passage from Lord Stanley's despatch of September 15, 1842:—

"You will perceive that it remains for you to issue the proclamations mentioned in the 6th, 7th, 11th, and 21st sections of the act, and (in the event of your considering the same minimum upset price as inapplicable to the whole colony) also that specified in the 14th section. The terms of those proclamations you will, of course, prepare with the assistance of your legal advisers, and with the advice of your Executive Council."

This, His Excellency said, shewed that it was the desire of her Majesty's Government to remove the Governor as far as possible from any direct interference and interest in the sale of land, so that the Governor himself should not personally come into contact with the settlers. He would now state the course that was always adopted in reference to a sale of land. An application was required to be sent to the Surveyor-General. Upon this, the Surveyor-General sent a report to the Governor; and at times several questions would arise—the quantity of land wished to be surveyed might be small or distant, and not worth the expense, or it might be isolated from the rest of the surveyed

land. The Surveyor-General, therefore, states his reasons why the application should or should not be acceded to. The Governor then gave his sanction, and he was happy to say that no difference of opinion had yet occurred between the Surveyor-General and himself; and he was certain that if that officer continued to exercise the discretion and ability which he had hitherto displayed, no difference would exist. If he agreed to the application, the matter passed altogether out of his hands for a time. After the lands were surveyed, a draught of a proclamation was prepared by the Surveyor-General, and sent to the Executive Council. Of course he (the Governor) had power to set aside their decisions, but he was happy to say that no difference of opinion had ever existed between that body and himself. Honourable Members would see from this statement that his position was simply that of supervision, that he did not act as an executive officer. The result of the system was very interesting. Since the Waste Lands Act came into operation, 201 applications had been made, only 27 of which had been refused, and the reason assigned was, that they were for small isolated lots of ten or fifteen acres, chiefly in the Tiers.

The Governor recapitulated other particulars of a return which he laid upon the table (which will be found in the next page), and from which, he said, Hon. Members would perceive that no applications had been refused for the survey of land unless there were sufficient and valid reasons for so doing.

Mr. Morphett moved that the return be printed, and took occasion to thank his Excellency for the lucid and satisfactory statement he had made, which tended to shew that the greatest facility existed for purchasing land, that the system was calculated to work well and easily, and to afford the most secure tenure that it was possible to possess. In answer to a question from his Excellency, he said that he perfectly understood and was satisfied with the explanation given in answer to his question.

In answer to a question by Major O'Halloran, the Governor said that ten acres in the country, and quarter of an acre in towns,

were the smallest lots sold by Government, but they were not restricted.

Return of special applications for the survey and putting up for sale of land, in accordance with the regulations dated 15th May, 1843 —

Applications complied with.		
Surveyed	97	
In progress of survey	45	
Land surveyed previous to the existing regulations	16	
		158
Applications refused.		
Small isolated blocks, difficult to connect with the general survey of the Province	27	
Previously reserved for public purposes	4	
For sections of 80 acres to be reduced to smaller blocks	2	
Area less than the minimum allowed by the land regulations	1	
		34
Postponed until the ground is again examined		1
Referred for decision to the home authorities, in consequence of a claim made by one of the applicants for purchase at a fixed price		2
For land previously sold		4
Applications withdrawn		2
Total number of applications		201

E. C. Frome, Capt. R. E. Surveyor-General.

July 19th, 1845.

CHAPTER VIII.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

"Man's wonder-working hand, had everywhere
Subdued all circumstance of stubborn soil;
In fen and moor reclaimed, rich gardens smiled,
And populous hamlets rose amidst the wild."

SOUTHEY.

I REMEMBER, some years ago, when a very unfriendly tone pervaded the Australian press towards South Australia, (for what causes need not here be stated,) reading an article in one of the Van Diemen's Land papers, which, speaking very slightingly of our productive capabilities, wound up by saying: "that they would not be surprised if the South Australians should entertain the assurance of some day or other sending wheat from Adelaide, to Van Diemen's Land!" Little did the writer of that paragraph dream in how short a time this would literally be fulfilled:—yes! South Australia has been actually sending cargoes of wheat to the "Granary of Australia," and sold them at a profit: Not a word could be spoken formerly by the friends of South Australia in favour of its capabilities as a corn-growing country, but it was immediately cried down as an attempt at puffing; even now there are not wanting writers, who cannot resist the tempta-

tion of aiming a sly hit at South Australia, and talk about droughts which *may* come, and soil which *may* become exhausted. But they are evidently aware that they are treading upon delicate ground, and that the daily increasing prosperity of South Australia cannot be hurt by their jealous and slighting allusions.

The soil of South Australia varies, as it does all over the world, according to the relative situation of different districts, and the causes which induce the deposit of rich vegetable mould or sandy loam. Along the banks of every water-course or river, and in valleys lying between hills, from the sides of which the rains have from time immemorial washed down upon them the decomposed débris of vegetable and mineral deposits, the soil is invariably of a rich dark mould, varying in depth, and containing much calcareous and argillaceous matter, with but little silica. "The open plains and low grounds throughout the colony consist principally of light sandy loam, of a bright red colour, resting on a limestone rubble; tracts of sandy and poor soil are also met with, generally arising from the decomposition of sandstone and quartz rock, &c. On the face of many hills, of moderate elevation, a fine brown loam is abundant, of more or less depth, in some cases three, in others as much as five feet, and is a most admirable soil for the growth of fruit trees. On the base of the hills, resting on the recent limestone, is generally found from six to eighteen inches

of a reddish loam, the very perfection of soil for the vine."* These few particulars, founded on the experience of the best practical authorities, may be relied upon as correct.

As to the extent of land within the present bounds of the colony, which comes under the above description, it is of course next to impossible to speak with any degree of exactness, and on that account I object to make any statement, which I could not properly substantiate; but the estimate which Colonel Gawler has formerly made, is I believe generally allowed to be pretty correct, as far as one can judge of a large extent of country from ocular survey. Colonel Gawler estimated that one-third of all the land is good for agriculture, one-third for pasture, and one-third barren.

An experience of eight years, during which the crops have never once failed, during which the land has never been manured, has established, first the absence of droughts, owing, as already stated, to our proximity to the southern ocean, from which the whole indrought of the south-westerly winds sets in upon us, accompanied as it is more or less by rain;† and secondly, the great and fertilizing powers of the soil, owing in an eminent degree to the very universal presence of decomposed limestone. The continuance of this natural fertility will doubtless in a few years be obliged to be

* Forwnum.

† Vide table of prevailing winds and rain, ante page 104.

secured by an improved system of agriculture and the application of manures, for which we have abundance of material, for the straw is now seldom or ever used, there being sufficient food for the cattle on the pasture lands, and our cattle not requiring to be housed, from one year's end to another. The accumulation of straw is indeed so inconvenient to the farmer, that he generally gets rid of it by burning; often endangering thereby the safety of his homestead and fences.

The finest agricultural district in the colony is undoubtedly that of Mount Barker; it would do the Duke of Richmond's heart good, were he to see the weighty crops which are grown there: and from the fact of this district having a considerable elevation over the sea, and being sheltered by the Mount Lofty range of hills against the hot winds from the north, the crops here are not so liable to shed prematurely, as they do on the plains of the lower country, if not immediately reaped when ripe. From 30 to 35 bushels per acre, is a low average for the Mount Barker district; 40 and 45 bushels having repeatedly been grown; and many of the prizes of the South Australian Agricultural Society have been carried off by the farmers here, amongst whom Mr. Duffield and Lieutenant Dashwood may be mentioned, as growing a very superior sample of fine plump wheat. The plains about Adelaide do not reach the average production of the Mount

Barker, and some other favoured districts, but the lower produce of these lands has been abundantly compensated by the great facilities afforded in reaping them with the machine invented by Mr. Ridley, and from a less outlay of money being required in clearing the land of the timber, the plains being almost free from it.

Next to the fertility of the soil and seasons, is the fact of so little clearing being required to make the land available; in many parts of this colony, thousands of acres have been broken up, from which not a single tree was obliged to be removed; and in other parts where the wood was more abundant, the process of "girdling," or destroying the sap, was found sufficient to bring the whole field into cultivation the first year, and removing one tree after another, at the farmer's leisure. With a boundless extent of wood for every purpose which may be required by the settler, the forests are on the one hand confined to mountain districts, and in the agricultural parts, the trees are dispersed in the form of a park, adding to the beauty of the country, without impeding the labours of the husbandman. Then again, the trees which may be on the land you might wish to cultivate, will be useful to you to fence that land with; should the timber not be sufficiently straight for making posts and rails, it will always make a kangaroo or a dog fence. The splitting of posts and rails gives occupation to a

number of men, who are called "tiersmen,"* from their avocations lying principally in the Stringy Bark Tiers, or Ranges; it takes about 4,500 pieces to inclose an eighty acre section with a three rail fence, and the price may be taken, according to the distance the material has to be carted, at from £60. to £70. per section of eighty acres. The "kangaroo" fence is composed of pieces of timber, large and small, all cut into lengths of seven feet, and placed close and upright, in a trench two feet deep, and well rammed; a rough batten being nailed along the top to give it consistency; this fence is preferred where the timber is plentiful, as it serves to keep pigs, sheep, or other small animals from getting into your fields. Besides these there are the "ditch and bank," "American or log-fence," and the "dog-leg-fence," according to the fancy or means of the farmer.

The ploughing is universally performed by the means of bullocks; they are more plentiful, and being stronger than horses, better adapted for breaking up new land, although after the ground has been well worked for a season or two, horses would be preferable, as they perform their work so much quicker. The oxen give little trouble, they do a hard day's work, and are then turned out into the woods or hills for the night, to procure feed for themselves. The ploughs are generally

* Facetiously called by Mr. George Stephenson, "men of the "tiers état."

preferred of colonial manufacture; English and Scotch ploughs are too slight, excepting they are used on old ground; the ploughs made in the colony are suited to the work required of them, and if a breakage occurs, are more easily put in repair. Mr. Robert Davenport, of Mount Barker, has had a subsoil plough constructed under his direction, and used with much advantage.

As has already been stated, manure is not used in South Australia as yet, for agricultural purposes; labour is too valuable, and the land is sufficiently productive, so that by adopting the plan of allowing half the section to remain fallow for one season, exposed to the sun and rain, the purpose of the farmer is accomplished. Indeed, such is the productive capability of the land, that I have known as good self-sown crops reaped from a paddock where the ground was in the second season only harrowed over, as from the first crop. The average depth to which the soil is turned over by the plough, is about eight inches; the wheat is sown from medio April, till medio June; if later, the farmer runs the risk of the hot winds, which occur in December and January. Barley may be sown considerably later. Barley, like wheat, succeeds amazingly; but it has not remunerated the grower, as distillation is next to prohibited in the colony. The following letter, as regards the price South Australian wheat has lately realized in the English market, will be read with pleasure.

To the Editor of the South Australian News.

Corn Exchange, and 6, London-street, Mark-lane.

SIR, Nov. 21st, 1845.

As one of the earliest friends of South Australia, I have ever taken a lively interest in her welfare; and having been favoured by the sales of the principal part of the South Australian wheat which has appeared in the London market, I am much gratified in being able to state, that the quality is very superior and acceptable to the London miller.

The bulk of the wheat, per the 'Isabella Watson,' was not quite equal to the previous importations, owing, no doubt, to a little less care having been taken in the cultivation and harvesting during the past year, occasioned probably by the low prices it realized in the colony. Still the quality was very superior; in proof of which, I obtained from 70*s.* to 76*s.* for the greater bulk of it, for the ordinary mealing purposes, and for a small quantity of extraordinary quality of prize wheat, from the Agricultural show at Adelaide, I obtained the high price of from 84*s.* to 96*s.* per quarter for seed.

I also had the pleasure of exhibiting a most beautiful sample of South Australian barley, of the chevalier growth, the extraordinary quality of which excited considerable interest: and it was generally considered to be the finest sample of barley ever shewn on the London Corn Exchange.

I thought this simple statement of facts might be acceptable to the friends of the colony.

And am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

CHARLES JAMES HEATH.

The enemies the farmer has to contend with, are "blight," and "smut," in the wheat; the former caused by the hot winds, should they occur at the period when the wheat is in bloom; the latter more from carelessness than any other cause, for, by being particular in steeping the wheat before it is sown, in these several "pickles" or solutions, which

are known to the farmer as a preventative of smut, this bane may be almost entirely guarded against.*

Drake is also a dreadful nuisance to the farmer; it ripens and sheds before the wheat does, and must be eradicated by not sowing the field for a season, and ploughing it as soon as the drake springs up, by which it is destroyed.

An average of twenty bushels of wheat of 60lbs. weight, for the whole colony, may be taken as correct; much of the good land bears 30 and 35 bushels, for several seasons in succession; the average produce of barley is much greater, and may be safely taken at 30 bushels. Barley is also cut green, as food for horses, kept in stables; and may be cut twice, if sown early, and still produce a crop of grain besides; otherwise it may be cut three times. The South Australian barley makes excellent malt; last year a malting establishment was added to the list of our manufactories. Oats thrive well in the Mount Barker district, as also potatoes, as a field produce; in the low districts these cannot be depended upon as a crop; the same may be said of maize; rye is very little cultivated, and principally by the Germans.

The following table shews the gradual and rapid increase of the cultivation in the Province, since the year 1840.

* Count Streleczki recommends the adoption of the following pickle, on the authority of Boussingault: "3 oz. of sulphate of copper per bushel, diluted in sufficient water to cover the wheat; soaked three hours:" our farmers would do well to try it.

Comparative Return of the number of Acres in cultivation in the Province of South Australia, in the years 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, *and* 1844.

Years.	Number of Proprietors	Number of Acres under Cultivation.						Totals.
		Wheat	Barley	Oats	Maize	Potatoes.	Garden.	
1840	—	1059	388	424	192	440	—	2503
1841	—	4154	897	501	714	456	—	6722
1842	873	14000	2700	700	850	690	850	19790
1843	1300	23000	3300	790	290	470	840	28690
1844	1357	18980	4264	1045	241	397	761	26918
1845	Estimated							30000

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 31st Jauuary, 1845.

Subdivision of land under cultivation in 1844.

Acres of	Adelaide.	Mount Barker.	Willunga.	Encounter Bay & Currency Creek.	Gawler.	Hutt River.	Moorunde.	Port Lincoln.	Totals.
Wheat ..	11196	3164	1850	406	2171	131	2	57	18980
Barley ..	2990	482	360	56	318	18	6	33	4264
Oats	595	270	83	3	84	4	..	4	1045
Maize ..	113	26	25	2	73	....	..	2	241
Potatoes.	78	260	27	11	17		..	1	397
Garden .	450	97	60	19	111	7	4	11	761
Self-sown.									
Wheat ..	560	243	18	....	59	..	..	8	888
Barley ..	124	10	....	....	26	10	..	..	170
Oats	139	21	....	....	..	..	..	..	160
	16250	4582	2524	498	2762	171	12	116	26918

The prospects of the farmers in South Australia have latterly, in common with those of every one else, greatly improved; the times are now past, I hope not to return again, when cargoes of wheat were to be bought in Adelaide at 2*s* 6*d* per bushel, and fine flour at £8. per ton—4*s*. 6*d*. is the last quotation in Adelaide, with a brisk demand for the neighbouring colonies; and although we may all wish to have a

continuance of cheap provisions, it must not be at the expense of a very deserving and industrious portion of our community; and bread may still be cheap, and give the farmer a legitimate return for the labour bestowed upon the cultivation of the soil likewise. The produce of our fields is exported, both as wheat and flour, to Sydney, New Zealand, Van Diemen's Land, King George's Sound, Swan River, Mauritius, Cape of Good Hope, Sincapore, England, &c.

The scarcity of labour in the latter end of 1842 was seriously felt by the farmers; when harvest came on they found the wheat actually being lost for want of sufficient hands to reap it; besides, the labourers took advantage of this scarcity, and demanded most exorbitant wages, from 15*s*. to 20*s* per acre, with an allowance of wine or beer, rations, and I know not what besides. During 1843, therefore, in the absence of emigration, which had at that time entirely ceased, a committee of agriculturists was formed, to devise means to obviate a similar occurrence in the harvest of 1843-4, by the application of mechanical power, and a premium was offered for a reaping machine, which should be effectual in its operations, and be generally applicable to the wants of the colony. At a meeting of the committee in September, 1843, no less than 13 persons exhibited models and drawings of various machines, creditable to them certainly, but each of which was pronounced of course by the inventor

as super-excellent. The committee, however, stated that no machine had been exhibited which they could recommend for adoption.

All this while there was another person in Adelaide devoting his talent to the accomplishment of the object in view, but he did not exhibit either models or plans; with great liberality, and no less credit to himself, he gave his time and money to the subject, and whilst others were discussing, *he made the machine!* This gentleman's name is Ridley; a native I believe of Newcastle upon Tyne; he possesses considerable self-acquired mechanical talent, having erected one of the first steam flour mills in the colony.

One afternoon, during the summer of 1843-4, some friends met me in Adelaide, and asked me to join them in their ride to a neighbouring farm, where Mr. Ridley's Reaping Machine, which they said both reaped and thrashed the corn at the same time, was successfully at work. It was not generally known at that time what the machine was, and although we were all incredulous, we started to see with our own eyes how far the reports we had heard were correct; presently we saw from several quarters, other horsemen, all steering to the same point. By the time we reached the farm, a large "*field*" had mustered to witness the proceedings, and there, sure enough, was the machine at work, by the agency of two horses, and two men, one to guide the horses, the other the machine! There was

no mistake about it—the heads of the corn were thrashed off perfectly clean; and a winnowing machine being at hand, the corn was transferred out of the reaping into the latter machine, and carts were ready to convey the cleaned wheat to the mill, two miles off, where the wheat, which an hour before was waving in the fields in all the lustre of golden tints, was by Mr. Ridley's steam-mill ground into flour. Never before was perhaps such a revolution in the appliances of agriculture caused, as was done by this machine; success attended the very first trial of it, and during seven days it reaped and thrashed the *seventy acres* of wheat of which the paddock we all went to see was composed. The harvest season of that year being already far advanced, the generality of farmers derived little benefit from it; but Mr. Ridley, during the succeeding year, made a number of them, which he sold to the settlers. By this time, I fancy, the greatest part of all the wheat grown in the colony is harvested by this machine, causing an enormous saving of labour and expense.

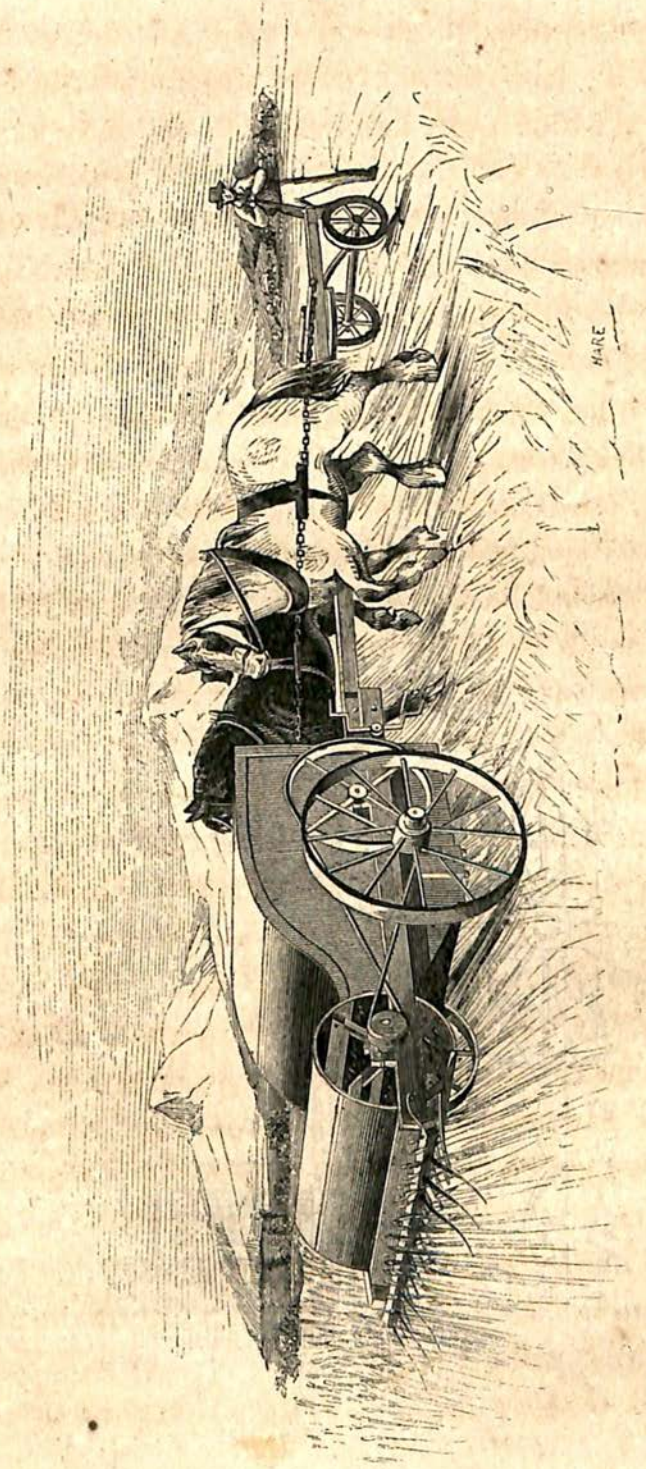
Nothing more important could have been invented for the prosperous development of our fertile agricultural districts; the farmers all knew, long since, that the land would grow corn in abundance; but they put in their grain, with fear and trembling, not knowing, but that when the crops were ripe, the half of it might shed before they could get sufficient hands to reap it. Our climate, again, is

perhaps one of very few, that affords the necessary facilities for the operations of this machine. Owing to the great dryness prevalent about the time the corn ripens, the corn separates from the chaff at the first blow of the beater, when the head of the straw is caught by the projecting teeth, which guide it into the lower cylinder; for the same reason, the cylinder is not liable to get choked, and, by having a sort of chimney at the upper and back end of the large receiving box, the greatest quantity of the chaff, makes its escape by the draught caused by the revolving of the beaters. Mr. Ridley is, besides, sanguine, in being enabled to add the perfect winnowing action to the same machine.

To an English farmer, the first glance at the accompanying sketch would suggest the idea of unfitness, as the machine, in passing over the field, appears to destroy the straw, which in England is such a valuable part of the field's produce; now with us, in the first place, we do not want the straw; it has been already stated that the straw is usually burnt by the farmer after thrashing; but, secondly, were the straw required, it could always be *mown*, after the bustle of securing the wheat, &c. was over for the straw is only laid down flat, not destroyed, and as no rain need be apprehended beyond a casual shower or so, during the harvest month, the straw remains fit for use for a long time.

This machine can reap and thrash one acre per hour with the greatest ease, though, except in cases

of emergency, the farmer does not hurry himself with it; two sets of horses are found quite sufficient, which work hour about, and are kept well fed on the field; bullocks have likewise been used with equal success; the loss from waste, has, by comparing the quantity of grain delivered from the field by this method, and the quantity which resulted in former seasons by hand reaping and thrashing, been found to be much less. This must be obvious to all; for in hand reaping, the first shock the corn gets (which it must be remembered is very dry and brittle, and easily separated from the husk) is by the action of the sickle; then it has to be bound, stooked, thrown on to a dray, carted to, and thrown on to the stack; before the thrasher performs his work, it has to be further tossed about; by all which operations there is loss. This machine, on the contrary, begins at one end and proceeds down the whole length of the field; high or low, crooked or straight, every straw is caught by the horizontal and lateral teeth, and thus brought under the beater. Trees being in the field does not hinder the use of the machine; as one man, with a sickle, can reap the few ears of corn immediately round the trees which may be out of the reach of it. But as the reader is doubtless anxious to have a minute description of this very clever and ingenious invention, which reflects the highest credit on Mr. Ridley, I will at once proceed to describe it, and direct the reader's attention to the accompanying plates.


HARE

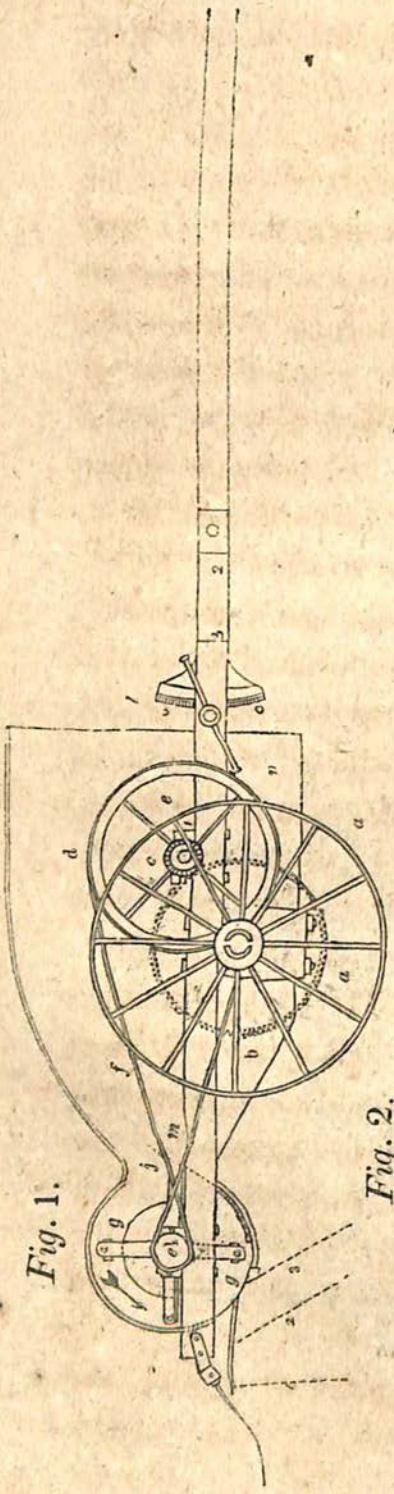


Fig. 1.

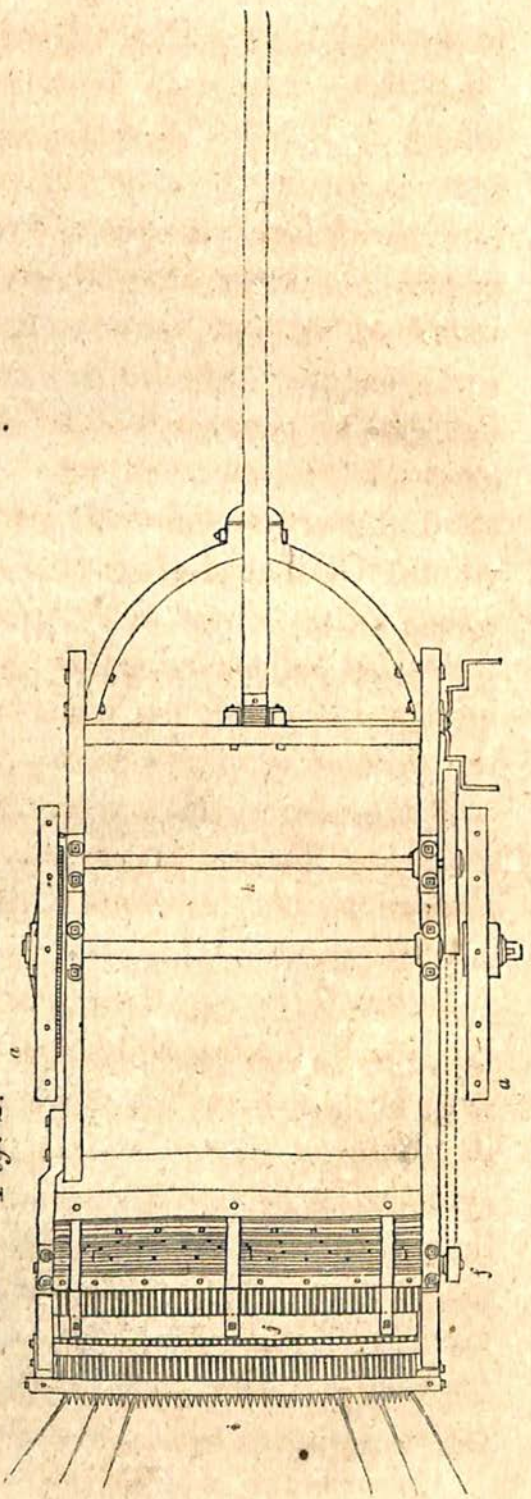


Fig. 2.

DESCRIPTION OF REAPING MACHINE.

Fig. 1. Side Elevation. Fig. 2. Plan.

The letters correspond in both.

This machine is driven by two horses, (see page 213) the carrying wheels *a a a*, are 4 feet in diameter, that on the off side is fixed to the axle, whilst the near wheel works in a box the same as an ordinary carriage wheel. To the inside of the off, or driving wheel, is attached a toothed rigger *b*, 30 inches diameter; this gears into the pinion *c*, on the shaft *d*, and gives motion to the fly wheel *e*, round which a cross belt *f*, passes, communicating with the pulley *g g*; this gives motion to the beaters *h h*, which make 30 revolutions to one of the driving wheel; now the driving wheel, at a moderate horse walk, revolves 20 times per minute, giving to the beaters a velocity, $30 \times 20 = 600$ revolutions per minute, in the direction of the arrows.

At the fore end of the machine are six prongs, three on each side, embracing the entire width of the wheel track, and serving to collect the ears into the narrower range of teeth *i*, these extend into the cylinder, in the form of a comb, and, between them, the neck of the straw passes to *j*, (as shewn by the dotted lines 1, 2, 3) when, coming in contact with the beaters, the corn is struck out and thrown up the curve *m*, over which it falls into the body of the cart *k*.

The machine is propelled by a pole from behind,

supported by two small wheels. The fore end of the machine is raised or depressed by turning the handle *n*, on the shaft of which is a pinion working in the segment rack *l*. This arrangement enables the workman to adapt the machine to long or short straw. In the vignette, page 213, the end of the cylinder is left open purposely to shew the beaters inside.

It has already been said that this machine will with ease reap an acre an hour; few farmers, however, require to hurry themselves at this rate; Major O'Halloran constructed one himself after the model of Mr. Ridley's, with which he performed the following work, on some fields of his estate, the Grange, near Adelaide:

Acres.		h. m.	Average time. h. m.
28½	in	46 —	1 36
12¾	„	19 50	1 32
56¼	„	80 30	1 24
11¼	„	12 30	1 8

108½ acres in 158h. 50m. or an average of 1h. 26m. per acre.

Captain Bagot, M.C., was one of the first who used this machine. The following letter, which he addressed to a local paper, gives some further interesting particulars respecting this admirable invention.

To the Editors of the Register.

Gentlemen,—The following is a statement of the work performed by one of Mr. Ridley's locomotive thrashing machines on my farm at Koonunga:—

On the 26th December we entered into a field of 39⅛ acres of wheat—a good full crop, tolerably thick, and about four feet high.

In nine days it was all thrashed, the machine having been at work sixty hours. The thrashed corn was laid down in heaps in the field and winnowed there.

The result has been 843 bushels of well cleaned corn, ready for the market.

The machine was drawn by six bullocks.

The expenses incurred were as follows :—	£.	s.	d.
Two men with the machine, one of them to steer, and the other to drive; these for nine days, at 2*s* 6*d* each per day - - -	2	5	0
Use of the machine at 2*s* 6*d* each per acre -	5	0	0
Cost of thrashing 843 bushels	£7	5	0

Or little more than 2*d* per bushel.

Three men were employed for twelve days winnowing and carting in the corn to the store.	£.	s.	d.
Three men twelve days, at 2*s* 6*d* each -	4	10	0
Use of winnowing machine - -	1	0	0
Cost of winnowing -	£5	10	0

Less than 1½*d* per bushel; making the entire cost of harvesting and preparing for the market, 3½*d* per bushel.

I am aware that much greater quantities of work have been done by some of these machines. I was not obliged to hurry, and preferred allowing ample time. We seldom put it to work before eleven o'clock, A.M., as we found at an earlier hour the straw was tough, and the thrashing was not so perfect as at a later period of the day. The result, however, is most satisfactory, and proves the extraordinary value of Mr. Ridley's admirable invention. I consider the machine most perfect, as calculated by Mr. R. to be worked by a pair of horses. The application of ox power to it will, perhaps, require some trifling modifications to render it equally perfect for them.

With the aid of this machine wheat may be grown in this colony for about 1*s* 6*d* per bushel, as shewn in the following statements :—

	£.	s.	d.
Rent of 80 acres of enclosed land at 4*s* per acre	16	0	0
Ploughing 40 acres, at 7*s* per acre -	14	0	0
Seed for 40 acres, 60 bushels, at 1*s* 6*d* per bushel	4	10	0
Sowing and harrowing in 40 acres at 1*s* 6*d* per acre	3	0	0
	£37	10	0

The other 40 acres are to lie fallow.

Produce of 40 acres, at 20 bushels per acre,			
800 bushels at - -	11½*d*	37	10 0
Harvesting as above - - -	3½		
	1 3		
Carting to market - -	0 3		
	1 6		

And by this mode of alternate cropping and fallowing, the land will continue its productiveness for an indefinite period.

Trusting that this plain statement of facts may be interesting to some of your readers, I shall be happy to see it admitted to a place in your paper. I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Koonunga, Jan. 1845. C. H. BAGOT.

The gallant captain, however, grievously offended the other farmers in South Australia, by stating that wheat could be grown in the colony for 1*s* 6*d* per bushel; nor am I myself inclined to adopt his calculations for the whole colony, and another shilling may safely be added to the 1*s* 6*d*, or 2*s* 6*d* be taken as the price at which wheat can be produced; but as I happen to know Captain Bagot, and his farming operations, intimately, I can safely affirm that his statements, as applied to his farm, are substantially correct.

The colonists were not behind-hand in acknowledging Mr. Ridley's valuable service to the colony; and a subscription was promoted by Captain Bagot to present Mr. Ridley with some testimonial. The sum thus raised, was, at the Agricultural Society's meeting of last year, presented to Mr. Ridley by His Excellency Governor Grey, who passed a high compliment on him on that occasion. Mr. Ridley, with his usual liberal spirit, applied the sum to the extension of his library by the purchase of the best scientific works, the use of which he allows to industrious and deserving mechanics.

Owing to the mildness of our winter season, and the abundance of natural food, our cattle are never housed, excepting, of course, the horses used in town; there is therefore little turnip or mangold-wurzel grown, beyond what is found in gardens; and English grasses, although their introduction and general growth would be desirable, are for the like reason also neglected.

As a general hint to English farmers who may hereafter make South Australia their home, it may not be out of the way to mention, that most of the theories on the practice of agriculture, as adapted to England, must be abandoned on commencing farming operations in the colonies; indeed, those who have had least experience in England, and who have consequently least to *unlearn*, generally get on much quicker than their cleverer and more theoretical neighbours. An Agricultural Society has been established some years, and is well supported.

HORTICULTURE.

To Horticulturists, the climate and soil of South Australia offers the surest promise of success; every experiment in gardening has proved that all vegetables and fruits reared in England, as well as those of warmer climates, succeed to perfection. Whilst the rich black soil of the banks of rivers and creeks is advantageous to the culture of the fig, olive, peach, melon, and orange, the face of the various undulating hills throughout the colony, being composed of red calcareous loam, resting on decomposed limestone and slate, is the very perfection for the growth of the vine. As a general summary of what has already been produced in the colony, I make no apology for giving extracts of the proceedings at last year's Agricultural and Horticultural show, held at Adelaide, in February, 1844.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.—These two Societies having been merged into one permanent body, the first show was held on Wednesday, the 14th of February, in the park-lands between North Terrace and Frome Bridge. More than 300 names appeared on the Subscription list, and £140. was thus collected. Nearly 1,200 persons paid for admission, and a sum was received which paid all expenses and left a balance in the treasurer's hands. The prizes offered were from £10. 10*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.* in value.

The following is a summary of the various articles sent for exhibition:

WHEAT, BARLEY, AND OATS.

1. *Wheat.* First prize to No. 9, Messrs. Innes and Gilmore, Chain of Ponds. A fine bold wheat, and of superior quality. It weighed 66lbs. 6oz. per imperial bushel.*

* The prize wheat of 1845 weighed 67½lb.

Second prize to No. 1, Messrs. Stamford, Burley, and Stamford, Bashan Farm, Meadows Special Survey. This sample also weighed 66lbs. 6oz. It is the same sort of wheat as gained the prize last year.

There were twenty-seven samples of wheat exhibited, and the majority of them were remarkably good.

There was also sent in for show, but not for competition, some stalks of hen-and-chicken wheat (one of the Egyptian varieties), grown from three seeds of corn in North Adelaide, four years ago, the increase of the first year being 3,000 grains. The grower, Mr. B. A. Stone, of the Pinery, warrants a crop any month in the year, and declares that it will neither take blight nor smut. He also laid on the exhibition table a loaf of bread, made from the flour. He asks £1. per bushel for the seed.

2. *Barley.* First prize to No. 27, Mr. Joseph Ind, of Hindley Street. Weight 57lbs. 4oz. per imperial bushel.

Samples of barley were also exhibited by Mr. A. H. Davis, Moore Farm Reed Beds; Mr. Porter, Helmore, Encounter Bay, (weight 54lbs. 10oz.); Mr. W. F. Sergeant, Sturt River, a bushel of six-rowed beardless and skinless barley, a native of Palestine, called by the French, "Orge Celeste;" Mr. John Ridley, Hindmarsh (pearl barley); and Mr. Joseph Ind, Hindley Street.

3. *Oats.* First prize to No. 40, Mr. James Shakes, of Mount Barker. Weight 46lbs. 6oz.

Other samples were sent in by Mr. C. B. Fisher, of Lockleys; Mr. Duffield, of Echunga, (weight 43lbs. 10oz.); and the Hon. G. F. Dashwood, of the Meadows.

FLOUR AND MALT.

1. *Flour.* First prize to No. 63, Mr. John Ridley, of Hindmarsh.

Samples of flour were exhibited by Dr. Kent, of East Park; Mr. William Gardiner, of Thebarton; and Mr. Joseph Ind, of Hindley Street, (two samples.)

We hardly ever remember seeing so fine a sample of flour as

the prize one. Dr. Kent's specimen was almost as good, but not so lofty.

2. *Malt.* The prize to No. 98, Mr. John Auld, of Park Land Brewery.

Two samples were also shewn by Mr. Alexander Paterson, of Kensington.

It was matter of regret to several visitors and tapsters, that no specimens of colonial hops were forthcoming, especially as in Tasmania they have made considerable progress in its culture.

DAIRY PRODUCE, HAMS, AND BACON.

1. *Butter*, fresh. First prize to No. 80, Mr. Joseph Hodson, of Glen Osmond.

Butter, potted. First prize to No. 124, Mr. C. B. Fisher, of the Reed Beds.

Many other samples were sent in.

2. *Cheese.* First prize to No. 72, Messrs. Whyte and Rankin, of Mount Crawford.

Second prize to No. 111, Mr. William Pinkerton, of Studley.

A cheese exhibited by Mr. Joseph Johnson (an excellent *old* one) attracted much notice; as also one a year old, made by Mr. T. N. Mitchell.

3. *Bacon*, flitch. First prize to No. 97, Mr. John Edwards, of Hindley Street.

4. *Hams* (bacon). First prize to No. 117, Mr. Walter Duffield, Mount Barker.

The pork hams exhibited were not nearly so fine as many we have seen; but the lateness of the season and the quantity exported may account for the deficiency.

POTATOES, ONIONS, FIELD PEAS, MAIZE, COBBETT'S CORN, AND HORSE BEANS.

1. *Potatoes.* First prize to No. 91, Mr. John Bishop, of Green Hill.

All the specimens of potatoes were fine, and some remarkably large and good.

2. *Onions.* First prize to No. 54, Hon. John Morphett, of Cummins, Sturt River.

All the onions were good, and some of them equal to the finest produced in Portugal or elsewhere.

3. *Field Peas.* First prize to No. 99, Mr. John Winzor, Lagoon Farm, near Glenelg.

The samples were very beautiful, particularly one kind, called the partridge pea.

4. *Maize.* First prize to No. 95, Mr. John Bishop, of Green Hill.

We noticed two stalks of great length and size, bearing several cobs of maize, which for beauty of appearance equalled anything of the kind we have ever seen.

5. *Cobbet's Corn.* First prize to No. 50, Mr. A. H. Davis, of Moore Farm, Reed Beds.

6. *Horse Beans.* First prize to No. 59, Hon. John Morphett, Cummins, Sturt River.

GRAPES, APPLES, PEARS, SWEET MELONS, WATER MELONS, FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND BOUQUETS.

1. *Grapes,* wine. The prize to No. 144, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide.

This collection embraced 12 of the finest varieties.

2. *Grapes,* table. The prize to No. 143, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide.

Some Black and white Constantia grapes were exhibited by Mr. William Giles, and several choice varieties by Mr. A. H. Davis, of Moore Farm.

3. *Grapes,* best and greatest varieties. The prize to No. 145, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide. The grapes were thoroughly ripe, and their appearance, arranged in their several assortments, and the more intimate test they underwent by the nice palates of the judges (for the public were forbidden even to touch) have proved beyond a doubt, that ours will become not only a vine-growing but a wine-exporting colony.

4. *Apples.* Prize to No. 131, Hon. Jacob Hagen, Echunga.

George Stephenson, Esq., of North Adelaide also shewed some choice varieties.

5. *Pears.* Prize to No. 156, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide.

The Hon. Jacob Hagen, also shewed some very fine pears.

6. *Sweet Melons.* Prize to No. 122, Mr. A. H. Davis, Moore Farm. The sweet melon which gained the prize, was, in the opinion of the judges, the finest flavour yet produced in the colony.

7. *Water Melons.* Prize to No. 137, Mr. William Dinham, of the Torrens.

It may be as well to state here, for the information of English readers, that so abundant is this delicious fruit in South Australia, that it may be had at half-a-crown the hundred-weight. The variety of appearance, sorts, and flavour, adapt themselves to all palates, and compensate for the comparative scarcity of tree fruits, but which give promise of soon becoming as cheap as in any part of the world. The quantity of melons consumed by all classes and ages would astonish the most lavish consumers of fruit in the mother-country.

8. *Fruits.* Best collection of, for which no prizes were separately offered. Prize to No. 146, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide.

These fruits comprised the following: citrons, peaches, plums, almonds, figs, dried figs, pomegranates, passaflora-idulis, orange, banana, olives, guava, medlar, and pine-apple. All these fruits were not in season, but specimens were exhibited to shew their healthy condition.

Amongst the fruits, we must make special mention of some beautiful almonds from the garden of George Stephenson, Esq., and a fine dish of sweet almonds sent for exhibition by J. H. Fisher, Esq.

Vegetables, for the best and greatest variety. Prize to No. 160, Mr. Joseph Ind, Hindley Street.

Other vegetables were shewn by Mr. George Clark, Walkerville; Hon Jacob Hagen, Echunga; Mr. A. H. Davis, Moore Farm;

Mr. John Hagger, Walkerville, two cucumbers, (Manchester prize,) and a small lot of green peas; Mr. Wm. Dinham, of the Torrens; Mr. R. Bell, Clifton, (vegetable marrow and tomata); and Mr. William Hains, Botanical Garden, two sorts of vegetable marrow, celery, (two kinds,) radishes, and lettuce, (Grand Admiral,) all of which, with the exception of the celery, had been sown within the last three months.

Carrots, parsnips, and the Cape cabbage turnip, and beet-root, were shewn in much profusion, and were, in point of size, so remarkable, that we regret we cannot state the girths and dimensions.

We noticed a very good specimen of the bottle-gourd, and were about to set down some enormous pumpkins as barrel-gourds, when a friendly connoisseur set us right as to their real pretensions. They had, we think, as much rotundity as a quarter-pipe; and we have since learned that one of them weighed 84 pounds. There were also on the exhibition table, a considerable variety of European garden herbs, in great perfection; and amongst the few seeds, there was a very fine sample of the useful and wholesome carraway.

10. *Bouquets*, (for the best.) First prize to No. 149, George Stephenson, Esq., North Adelaide. Second prize to No. 158, Hon. Jacob Hagen, Echunga.

11. *Cottagers' Prize* (for the best bouquet.) Mr. John Bailey of Hackney Nursery.

George Stephenson, Esq., exhibited a very fine specimen of sugar cane and New Zealand flax.

TOBACCO, FRESH AND MANUFACTURED.

1. *Tobacco*, fresh. Prize to No. 103, Hon. John Morphett, Cummins, Sturt River.

2. *Tobacco*, manufactured into cigars. Prize to No. 53, Mr. W. F. Sargeant, Sturt River.

Mr. Sargeant's sample consisted of six stalks of Virginia tobacco, partly cured; six ditto ditto, from the same plant; six sticks of Negro-head; a small parcel of cut tobacco; one hun-

dred cigars; and three hands of leaves made ready for packing. Other samples were exhibited.

Mr. Alexander Lawson, of Adelaide, exhibited three qualities of snuff.

REAPING MACHINES.

The Society's prize of £10. 10*s*. was awarded to Mr. John Ridley, of Hindmarsh, for his harvest machine, in doing which, His Excellency, the Governor, paid Mr. Ridley some well-merited compliments.

UNENUMERATED ARTICLES.

Although the prizes for unenumerated articles are not yet fixed, the following are the Judges' and our own remarks upon them.

1. *Iron Castings.* Mr. John Wyatt, of Grenfell Street, a cylinder, seven inches diameter, for a four-horse power steam engine, fifteen inches stroke; and four iron cart and dray wheel boxes. The Judges pronounced them most creditable productions, and quite equal to anything that could be produced at any of the best foundries in England.

2. *Soap.* (No. 100.) Mr. W. H. Burford, three bars of mottled soap, and (No. 101) Wright, Linn, and Elliott, for samples of yellow soap. Both of excellent quality.

3. *Candles,* mould. No. 107, Mr. J. H. Walker. An excellent specimen.

4. *Salt,* one bag made from English rock salt. Mr. G. H. Thompson. Apparently a fine white salt, of good quality, and well manufactured. The Judges expressed their regret, that there was not also a specimen of manufactured salt purely colonial.

Mr. Thompson is already supplying salt, similar to that exhibited, at the rate of two tons a week; and he is determined to form salt-pans contiguous to the Port, where he will perfect a refinery.

5. *Wool,* three fleeces. Mr. James Masters. All very good specimens, and one sample of fine wool particularly beautiful, almost equal to the best Saxony.

6. *A Hearth-rug,* in colours, manufactured from native wool,

and on a colonial-made loom, by J. F. Bottomley, Thebarton. Very creditable as a first specimen. Mr. B. can manufacture hearth-rugs of any colour or pattern, and by the same machinery, he will be able to manufacture wire-gauze for blinds and sieves.

7. *Leather*, two parcels, one from Mr. George Bean, the other from Mr. William Peacock. The Judges gave a decided preference to Mr. William Peacock's, both on account of the greater variety and superior quality.

Mr. Peacock's specimens comprised three sides kip, three calf-skins, three goat-skins, two dog-skins, two cat-skins, four kangaroo-skins, four seal-skins, six black sheep-skins, three brown sheep-skins, and two sole-butts and a piece.

Mr. George Bean's samples consisted of one butt and two sides sole-leather, seven sides bright harness-leather, one dozen kangaroo-skins, one dozen wallaby-skins, two dozen seal-skins, two horse-hides, three calf-skins, one piece boot-top leather, four bright seal-skins, and four bright basils.

8. *Ale.* One cask, from Mr. John Shand, which was pronounced particularly deserving of patronage. The tasting the contents of this cask was not confined to the Judges; and all agreed in declaring it excellent. At his own tap, Mr. Shand retails it at two shillings per gallon.

9. *Starch.* Dr. Davey, of Walkerville, (two specimens.) Mr. Giles (whose report the Committee confirmed) stated, that these samples of starch were equal in quality to any manufactured by country makers in England, but not quite equal to the London makers, Howard, Chancellor, & Co., and Lechere & Co.

10. *Honey,* (one jar.) George Stephenson's, Esq. Excellent.

11. *Castor-oil,* (cold drawn.) Mr. Carlton, Apothecary of the Adelaide Hospital. Particularly good. Dr. Kent stated that he never examined a superior sample.

We also noticed a bush drake-sieve, made by Mr. Luke Broadbent, near the Cherry Gardens; colocynth, from Mr. Robert Bell, of Clifton; capsicums, from Mr. Edward Giles, of Noarlunga; a small bag of chicken-corn, and another of seed wheat, from Mr. Kemmis, of Yankalilla; and eleven beautiful specimens of

galena, (lead ore,) sent by Edward Stephens, Esq., Manager of the Bank of South Australia, and O. Gilles, Esq.

By some unaccountable oversight, no specimens of the copper-ore, which is now being wrought by Messrs. Bagot and Dutton, made their appearance.

His Excellency, the Governor, with Mrs. Grey, were present. In distributing the prizes, he expressed himself highly gratified, and in some instances, astonished at the productions exhibited. A dinner was held after the exhibition.

Mr. Stephenson's garden, in North Adelaide, as well as those formed by Mr. Hack at great expense, at Echunga Springs, in the Mount Barker district, with some minor ones, are the principal nursery-gardens from whence the colonists are supplied with every variety of the best fruit trees; another garden, which for beauty and extent of its arrangements, and great variety of its productions, deserves especial mention, is at Highercombe, the seat of George Anstey, Esq.; indeed it would be difficult to say what is *not* to be found in those gardens.

Gardens and vineyards, on an extensive scale, are now being laid out, in all parts of the colony, and in a few years much wine will be made; although as to the quality which may be expected, it would be premature to give a decided opinion—the vine loving a warm dry calcareous soil, and our colony possessing these advantages in perfection, added to the most suitable climate, the most sanguine hopes may be entertained of eventually producing a good quality in great abundance.

The fig, olive, and almond, thrive amazingly, and

almost without any farther care being requisite after they are once planted: raisins, figs, almonds, and olive-oil, may not unreasonably be expected hereafter to add to the list of our exports.

During the fruit season, every person, from the highest to the humblest, has the opportunity of enjoying sweet and water-melons, peaches, apricots, and grapes, in great abundance and perfection, as well as at a very reasonable rate. The luxury of the South Australian water-melon, must be enjoyed to be thoroughly appreciated, no description can do justice to it. All fruits are grown in the open air; the trees as standards, and the melon is now grown in fields: you see drays, drawn by two and four bullocks, coming into town early of a morning, with the melons piled up like the loads of cabbages sent to Covent Garden market. They are grown of immense size, 15 and 18lbs. being quite common, which, during the season, would sell for 6*d.* each.

The castor-oil plant grows and extends so rapidly, that if not checked it becomes in a short time a perfect nuisance; a very excellent sample of the oil has been manufactured from it. Hops give the fairest promise: the first ever planted were thirty roots; these gave 5lbs. of hops the first year, and 600 plants, which were planted out, and are all doing well, and furnishing abundant roots for other settlers.

Tobacco has not been extensively planted: Messrs. Bonney, and William Jacob, are the principal

growers, with whom the return has been satisfactory, but in the manufacture of the leaf, we are still very far behind-hand.

The vegetables generally found in the English kitchen garden grow most luxuriantly in South Australia. Among these may be classed the *cabbage, pea, bean, turnip, onion, leek, carrot, cauliflower, brocoli, celery, beet, artichokes, scotch kale, horse-radish, parsley, radish, lettuce, sea-kale, shalot, spinach, cress, endive, garlic, basil, balm,* and a variety of others too numerous to be particularised.

A cabbage, weighing 20lbs. was lately exhibited at the Horticultural show, and potatoes weighing 1½ and 2lbs., are of common occurrence. I have myself seen a cauliflower brought into town on a cart, which it took two men to lift off, not exactly from its weight, but in order not to break any of its leaves; it was truly an enormous plant. The principal thing a person has to attend to in commencing a garden, is to trench the whole of the ground allotted to that purpose thoroughly, and not less than eighteen inches deep; having done this, he may be sure that every thing above enumerated will grow in it to perfection.

His Excellency, Governor Grey, has, during the whole period of his residence in South Australia, taken the liveliest interest in the success of the agriculturist, grazier, and horticulturist. He is the Patron of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, which he not only assists with his subscrip-

tion, but gives every facility in his power, by granting the use of the most convenient localities in the Government domains, for the use of the Society for their half-yearly shows, which now make a most respectable appearance, and are each time attended by many hundreds of the colonists; liberal premiums are awarded as prizes to the best articles of garden and field produce, and from the opinion expressed in Mark-lane, coupled with the prices it has fetched, the wheat and barley grown in South Australia, has now, beyond doubt, taken up a high stand in the estimation of English buyers.

Colonel Le Couteur, to whom I gave a sample of the prize wheat, has kindly promised to make some experiments in growing it, with a view of ascertaining whether it is susceptible of being sufficiently acclimatized here, to preserve its superior qualities, when exposed to European temperature and soil.

Mr. George Stephenson's garden in North Adelaide, has several times been mentioned above, as producing in perfection almost every kind of English and tropical fruit: here, the banana and the gooseberry may be seen growing side by side; and the produce of the fruit trees are no less abundant in quantity, than rich in flavour. Indeed, it has often been a matter of surprise, that every description of tree and plant should have succeeded so well in this garden, as from the appearance of the soil, no great results would be anticipated by inexperienced observers. A friend of

mine, having brought from Adelaide a portion of the soil and subsoil of this garden, *which has never been manured*, I submitted them to Dr. Ure, F.R.S. for analysis, and the unexpected and interesting result of that analysis, of such importance to the colony, makes me regret not having thought of bringing with me a variety of samples of soil from the agricultural districts. Dr. Ure says of it: "I have devoted much time and pains to the analyses of the soils; they are the most singular I have ever examined, or even heard of. These soils are very remarkable, and must be very fertile, as they contain all the elements requisite for the nourishment of plants. If to this soil a very small quantity of Peruvian guano were added, it would afford amazing crops: it wants nothing but a little rich animal matter."

The analysis produced the following result:—

Surface soil.

1.	Sulphate of lime or gypsum	75	0
2.	Phosphate of lime	2	0
3.	Moisture	2	0
4.	Combustible vegetable matter . . .	2	0
5.	Oxide and phosphate of iron . . .	6	0
6.	Fixed alkaline salts, containing some of the valuable pot-ash salt; these are muriates of soda and pot-ash	4	5
7.	Silica and a little alumina . . .	8	5
		100	0

A trace of magnesia.

Subsoil.

1.	Sulphate of lime (gypsum)	53	33
2.	Phosphate of lime	2	00
3.	Oxide and phosphate of iron	5	50
4.	Moisture expelled at red heat	15	00
5.	Fixed alkaline salts	3	50
6.	Silica with a little alumina	20	67
		100	00

A trace of magnesia.

(Signed) ANDREW URE, M.D. F.R.S., &c.
London, 23rd February, 1846.

The result of these chemical researches, prove the soil, on which the *town of Adelaide is built*, to contain in an unprecedented and extraordinary degree, all the most fertilizing mineral elements. It at once occurred to me to ascertain through the same means, how far the chemical composition of the grain grown in South Australia might be affected by these elements, which there is no reason to believe should be entirely and exclusively limited to Mr. Stephenson's garden. That sulphate of lime is present in other parts of the colony, I had it fortunately in my power to ascertain; amongst the curiosities brought back by the party who explored the Port Lincoln district, under poor Mr. Darke, who lost his life whilst engaged in it, were two substances; one a fine greyish powder, the other minute and very regularly formed scales, very similar to fish scales; these were found in large

quantities on the borders of some lakes in Port Lincoln, and must have been precipitated from the waters, in which they are held in solution. The scales, Dr. Ure ascertained to be sulphate of lime in the purest state, the powder likewise, though less pure; it is not unreasonable to expect that this valuable mineral manure, may exist also in the soil of the corn-growing districts, and be in part the cause of their fertility.

I was also forcibly struck by the very discouraging and unfavourable results of Count Strzelecki's personal researches in the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land; he first gives the following comparative table of proportion of gluten contained in the several countries of all climes, as follows:—

Europe, according to Davy, Vogel, Boussingault, and Vauquelin	-	-	*average.* 22.5
Asia	-	Boussingault -	21.6
Africa	-	ditto -	22.0
North America	-	Strzelecki -	21.3
South America	-	ditto -	17.9

he then proceeds—

"If we take the amount of gluten in twenty-five different specimens of wheat in New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land, its average will be greatly below that of South America. It would be really invidious and injurious to the Australian farmers to insert here the localities where the wheat, which has been analysed, was grown; suffice it to say, as

a warning against the evil with which the most essential interests of society are threatened, that the gluten of the wheat of some of the farmers, in both the colonies, does not amount to four per cent."

To ascertain how far the grain grown in South Australia might be similarly affected in its nutritive qualities I submitted samples of wheat and barley to Dr. Ure, at the same time drawing his attention to the above report on the grain grown by our neighbours in Van Diemen's Land, &c. The following is the Doctor's report :—

No. 1 affords 6.56 per cent. of dry gluten, equivalent to 17.25 of moist gluten.

No. 1 affords 1.05 of azote per cent., which, reckoning gluten to contain 16 per cent. of azote, gives the above proportion.

No. 2 affords exactly the same proportion of azote and gluten as No. 1.

No. 3 affords 1.26 of azote per cent., which corresponds to 7.9 of dry gluten, and 21 of moist gluten.

No. 4, the barley, affords only 0.8633 of 1 per cent. of azote, equivalent to 5.4 of dry gluten and 14.2 of moist.

It is now admitted, by chemists, that the old and vulgar method of determining the proportion of gluten by kneading the flour of grain with a little water, and then washing away the starch by a stream of water, is quite inexact, even as to the pure gluten, and it does not give the proportion of albumine or caseine, which being equally rich in azote, with gluten, should be always included in the analysis. By the accurate determination of the azote, however, which can now be done very perfectly by modern methods of chemical research, we are in a position to ascertain the nutritive qualities of the several cerealia with great precision.

The estimates of gluten, given in Mr. Strzelecki's Book, seem to me, for the above reasons, to be devoid of authority. Moist

gluten contains so uncertain a proportion of water besides, that it should never be taken as a standard, as he obviously does.

The flour used by the Parisian bakers, which is fully better than that used by the average London bakers, contains, according to Vauquelin and Dumas, two excellent chemists, 10½ per cent. of dry gluten, corresponding to 26.4 of moist, so that your wheat is considerably below that standard; but I have analyzed English wheat, of fair commercial value, which is of the same composition as your No. 3. The barley, No. 4, being very rich in starch, as it is poor in gluten, is therefore exceedingly well adapted for malting, and ought to fetch a high price in the market.

The relative qualities of grain are now estimated by the weights of respective bushels, or the aliquot part of a bushel of each. But this method is in some measure fallacious; if small sized lead shot, and large sized be tried by that method the one will be found to differ from the other in apparent density, though the real density of the lead of both is the same. In like manner, corn of equal quality or density, derived from its gluten, will differ in weight per bushel according to the size of its grains. The only method of avoiding that source of error is to determine the specific gravity of the corn on the same principle as the specific gravity of metals, minerals, and gems are determined.

I find in this way that: —

		Spec. grav.
No. 1.	Wheat from Adelaide is	1.400
2.	do. do.	1.350
3.	do. do.	1.380
4.	Wheat offered as prize wheat at the Southampton competition (English)	1.340
5.	Barley of Adelaide . . .	1.285

ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S.

To F. S. DUTTON, Esq. 28th March, 1846.

Whilst, therefore, these analyses are highly satisfactory, as compared with those of wheat grown in Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales, it also proves that much remains to be done by our

farmers; whether Count Strzelecki's analyses are correct or otherwise, (which I do not pretend to be competent to give an opinion upon) one thing is very certain, that all the Australian colonies are under considerable obligations to him, for having devoted years of labour and research to the study of the physical features of a portion of them, the results of which are now before the public in his valuable scientific work, and it is a subject of much regret that he was not able to extend his travels to South Australia, where in a geological and mineralogical point of view he would have found a vast field for research, and have been sure to have met with the same cordial and hospitable reception given him everywhere else.

It is therefore high time that the farmers in South Australia should bestir themselves, and, by the application of a better system of agriculture, ensure not only a continuance of the natural fertility of their soil, but by adopting the uses of *animal* manures, and, where possible, artificial irrigation, to call forth the full energies of those *mineral* manures contained in the soil, which for the want of them, are now lying dormant, and the result of which would undoubtedly soon bring our wheat up to the nutritive standard of the most favoured countries.

CHAPTER IX.

THE PASTORAL INTEREST.

". . . . On thy mountains, flocks
Bleat numberless; while roving round their sides
Bellow the blackening herds in lusty droves."

THOMSON.

To Mr. Bonney, and Mr. Eyre, belong the credit of having opened the overland communication from New South Wales, to South Australia, by which our hills and valleys, in a very short space of time, became stocked with sheep and cattle. The abundance of capital existing in South Australia, in the early years of its settlement, added to the very favourable nature of the country for pastoral purposes, led to large investments in stock; the value of sheep, in particular, soon rose, from the great demand, beyond that point at which it could beexpected that the capital invested would return a fair rate of interest; that many people should subsequently have been disappointed in the expectations they entertained, of making fortunes by sheep-farming, after paying the high price they did in the outset, was a natural consequence, and an opinion obtained ground in the colonies, and in England, that investments in stock, were not only precarious, but unproductive. After some years experience in pastoral pursuits, I may safely affirm, that few

investments, if properly looked after, are more certain of making a man independent, than that of a sheep-farmer; and I can point with pleasure to my numerous friends and fellow settlers in the colony, who have done remarkably well, and are in a fair way of realizing an independence.

The settlers of South Australia, have on the whole, suffered less from the depression of former years, than those in the neighbouring colonies. I take the principal cause to be, that in South Australia, the custom prevails to a greater extent, of the owner of the flocks residing at the station, and looking after his own affairs himself, besides leading a frugal and industrious life. Incurring fewer liabilities, he was also never driven to the desperate expedient of "killing the goose for the sake of the egg;" I allude to the boiling down of sheep, which was so very general throughout New South Wales and Port Phillip, and by which the settlers of those colonies sacrificed thousands of their sheep to pay their debts.

In South Australia, no boiling-down establishment was ever established or required.

The following table will give some idea how rapid is the increase in stock.

	1838.	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.
Sheep	28000	108700	200160	242055	300000	350000	450000
Horned Cattle....	2500	7600	15100	16696	20000	25030	30000
Horses.....	480	800	1060	1650	1850	2000	2150
Goats and Pigs ...	780	1700	3400	6000	8000	10000	12000

I have not been able to get a correct return for last year; but I am much below the mark, in taking a further increase of from 25 to 30 per cent. on the numbers for 1844; the number of sheep now in South Australia, being not less than 600,000, which will produce a million and a half pounds of wool, and require nine or ten large ships to bring to England.

Although we were never obliged to resort to boiling down our sheep, to pay our debts, still it cannot be denied, that in the days of general depression, sheep were at a great discount, and many good bargains were obtained by those who had sufficient confidence and experience to look forward to a rise in the wool market; which, though long of coming, did at length come, and fully realized their expectations, by at once raising the value of sheep to more than double what they were two years ago. Many have since repented for having thrown up their sheep in disgust at the long continued depression of the home markets, and they would gladly be replaced in the same position now, they were eighteen months ago; those, on the contrary, who have always steadily held on by this great sheet-anchor of our resources, have never had cause to repent it; their debts are long since paid, and they are now independent men.

It is singular, that in none of the colonies has there ever been a book published, on the all important subject of breeding sheep, cattle, or horses; with the great experience many settlers have had on the sub-

ject, and the much leisure time at their command "in the bush," a work of that description might long since have been produced, and would have conferred a great benefit on the community at large. Books written in England on those subjects, are quite inapplicable to the altered circumstances, under which the same occupations are pursued in the colonies; and I would throw out the suggestion to the settlers that a committee be formed for the collection of the results of their experience from all parts of the colony, which might afterwards be properly condensed and arranged for publication, thereby affording a practical hand-book for new comers, and be the means of suggesting many improvements on the methods now in use, which are of great importance to all concerned.

The wool from South Australia does not obtain in the English market a value on the scale that its quality deserves: I will hazard one remark against the combined experience of all the wool buyers in England, and state, that this is more owing to prejudice, than any real inferiority of the article.* The

* I copy from Messrs. Gooch and Cousins' Circular for 1845, the following particulars of the total importation of wool into England from all parts of the world, shewing the growing importance of the Australian Colonies to the British manufacturing interest:

Australia	77,479	Bales.
Germany	61,777	„
Spain and Portugal	8,455	„
Sundries	117,424	„

sheep in South Australia are of a very superior description, because none but the very best sheep were ever imported from New South Wales; but the English wool buyers will not believe this: the *ipse dixit* of the Hall of Commerce is against us, and we must submit to take two or three pennies a pound less, than our more favoured neighbours get.

But would my readers believe it!—the same wool, which, had it come direct from Adelaide would have fetched say only 1*s* 6*d* per lb., by being first shipped to Sydney, and from thence home to London, sold for 3*d* and 4*d* per lb. higher! Now what is the cause of this?—the buyers of course cannot know that it originally came from South Australia, and it just proves, that with all their experience, they were not able to recognize one in contra-distinction to the other. I trust that this fact may meet the eyes of some of the great purchasers of Australian wool, and that at the sales this summer, this illiberal distinction may not be made.

It has also been a common thing for the wool buyers in England to attribute neglect and want of proper pains being taken by the settlers in South Australia in getting up their wool. Now, nothing can be more unjust; I maintain that there is not a more hard-working and pains-taking class of young men, in any of the Australian colonies than is to be found in South Australia; and if our wool is a shade more dingy than that of our neighbours, it is owing to the water with which our sheep are washed,

being in some parts of the colony rather hard, so that it does not dissolve the yolk so well and wash out the dirt, as is the case where the water is softer. Even this inferiority will now soon cease to exist, as large tanks and reservoirs to collect the rain-water, and proper shearing sheds are being built, when we will be able to send our wool home in a much improved condition. In the older established colonies also, the great sheep-owners, being men of large wealth, were enabled to go to much expense in making the necessary arrangements for washing and shearing, which, for want of pecuniary means, we have hitherto been certainly deficient in.

The comparatively limited extent of our sheep-runs, is another difficulty our sheep farmers have to contend with; sheep will only prove profitable as long as we can get sufficient country to feed them upon, without having to purchase land, for that would be quite out of the question: owing to the way the province has been cut up, by the demand for small sections of 80 acres, and above, the sheep-runs have in many instances been seriously interfered with, as every owner of a section pretended to claim the surrounding country to a certain extent as his own run; disputes were constantly occurring, and the office of Commissioner of Crown Lands became anything but a sinecure. The sale of land has now again set in with more force than ever, owing to the discovery of the minerals throughout the province, and the sheep farmers would have looked forward with con-

siderable alarm to what they are to do with their increasing flocks in a few years time, had it not been for the opportune discovery of the Rivoli Bay District, and the resumption of the Port Lincoln runs; and there can be little doubt that the enterprise of the settlers, and the sinking of wells, will continue to make available more country, which may now be considered by them undesirable, whenever they find themselves driven into inconveniently narrow bounds, by the increasing sales of land, or number of their flocks.

A variety of regulations for the depasturing of stock were from time to time issued by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, which he as quickly found imperfect, to meet the exigencies of the various cases brought before him; last August, therefore, all previous regulations were superseded, and new ones issued, under which the waste lands of the Crown are now occupied by the settler: they will be found, given in detail in the Appendix. These regulations appear, at all events, to have the great advantage of being distinctly drawn up, so that every settler will know how far he may go himself, or let his neighbour go; the boundaries of runs are generally marked by running a plough-furrow, wherever the nature of the country admits of it, this being an indelible mark, not easily obliterated; in other parts where a plough cannot work, stakes are driven into the ground at certain visible distances, or else the trees are notched, the direction being taken by compass.

The rent paid for the land is a mere nominal one, to establish the right of the Crown to the soil.

The charge for licenses is as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
For depasturing licenses, authorising only the depasturing of stock	0	10	6
For occupation licenses, authorizing building and residing on waste lands for the purpose of depasturing stock thereon	5	0	0
For timber licenses, authorising only the cutting and removal of timber and other natural produce	1	0	0

But we pay a tax on the stock besides this, of one penny for every sheep, sixpence for every head of cattle, and 2*s.* 6*d.* per head for horses—annually.

The tenure by which the settler holds the waste lands from the Crown is by an annual lease, liable to be withdrawn from him at any moment; this, of course, prevents him undertaking the least improvement of the land, as he dare not risk to go to an expense in buildings or cultivation, which any one may the next day turn him out of by buying the land. His Excellency Governor Grey has given this subject every attention, as it appears from his address to the Council last session, that he had already submitted a plan to the Home Government for approval, by which some permanent provision will be made to protect the settler. The details of this plan are, however, not known. If good land is to be sold only at a high price, let there at all events be some fixity of tenure for the occupation of that portion, which, but for the settler, would be next to worthless.

The appearance of the sheep-runs during the rainy

months is very beautiful; indeed the growth of the grass is so rapid and so abundant, that during July, August, and September, one acre would feed 4 sheep, whilst in summer it would take 4 acres or more to feed one sheep. This is the reason why the settlers require such large tracts of country to feed their stock upon. During the winter months all the stock in the province cannot consume or feed down the luxuriant growth of grass; towards November and December it becomes of course very dry from the heat of the sun, and is easily ignited; the ravages of the bush-fires, as they are called, are then often very destructive, not alone to the grass itself, but, from the rapidity with which it flies along the ground, endangering fences and farm-buildings.

The fences and farms are generally protected by ploughing two or three furrows round them, as a very narrow road, or other bare line of ground, will stop the progress of the flames if the wind is not too violent.

Whenever a fall of rain occurs immediately after a fire, it is surprising to see how soon the beautiful green young grass springs up again; the fire passes over the ground too quickly to injure the roots of the grass, and it is only when five or six weeks elapse without rain, that the sheep sometimes have to live upon very short commons.

Of diseases amongst the sheep we have fewer than in New South Wales; catarrh, that dreadful visitation, which, without any apparent cause, or known remedy, carries off hundreds of sheep in a

few hours after they become infected, is unknown in South Australia, and we have every reason to be grateful to Providence that such is the case. Two of my brothers who were settled in New South Wales, have twice had their flocks ravaged by this fell destroyer, annihilating in a few short weeks, the fruits of years of anxious toil, and successful industry. In South Australia no case of catarrh has ever occurred: may I be allowed to express a hope that the settlers in our colony may continually have the fear of that beneficent Being before them, whose protecting hand has hitherto guarded their flocks from this scourge.

Foot-rot, when neglected, is also fatal to the sheep, and very infectious. The cases that have occurred in South Australia, have been confined to marshy runs, and have readily given way to the simple expedient, of driving the flocks on stony hills, or drier pasturage.

The greatest enemy of the sheep-farmer, is the "scab;" I am not far wrong in saying, that half the sheep in this province are infected with it. The disease is not fatal to the sheep, but where it is not checked, will very soon be fatal to the interest of the settler, by the loss of the wool it occasions. Legislative enactments, and stringent regulations from the Crown Lands Commissioner, have repeatedly been tried, and all to no purpose; still, it must not be supposed that the disease is incurable; far from it; but owing to the great number of sheep each settler

has, it is not to be wondered at that in dressing them a spot or two of scab might escape detection; this one spot will in a short time infect the whole flock again; and that flock, if not guarded against, would soon infect the whole colony. There being no fixity of tenure in our sheep-runs, many of the smaller settlers are constantly on the move; and as these generally have less means at their disposal to keep their sheep dressed, they are the constant dread and terror of the large stations, where clean sheep are kept. It is to be hoped that Mr. Bonney's new regulations will cause some degree of security from trespass or interlopers, which was very much wanted.

In England a farmer who has his 500 or 1,000 sheep* is thought to be extensively occupied in wool-

* The following are some of the largest sheep proprietors.

South Australian Company . .	35,000 head.
F. H. Dutton, Anlaby . . .	20,000 „
G. A. Anstey, Light . . .	16,000 „
G. and C. Hawker, Hutt . . .	10,000 „
J. B. Hughes and Brother, ditto . .	12,000 „
C. H. Bagot and Sons . . .	12,000 „
A. Hardy	10,000 „
Leake and Brothers, Rivoli Bay . .	15,000 „
D. MacFarlane	10,000 „

Four or five thousand sheep are of common occurrence.

Amongst cattle proprietors there are,—

Charles Campbell and Co. . .	2,000 head.
Lieutenant Field . . .	500 „
J. and W. Jacob . . .	500 „

and many others.

growing; how they would stare, were they to see some of the large establishments in the colony during shearing time, when there are often from 10 to 15,000 sheep congregated together, within a circumference of five miles from the wool-shed. Sheep become profitable in proportion to the extent of the flocks; the owner of 10,000 sheep, can manage them cheaper than those who only have the tenth part of that number, because there are many expenses attending upon a sheep-station which are the same in both cases, and of course fall heavier on the small proprietor. It has always been the fashion in publications on the colonies, to give tables of calculations as to the profits realized from the breeding of sheep or cattle; I, however, have a strong objection to this, as it cannot be done with sufficient accuracy to serve as a guide to those who would wish to embark their funds in it, and I should be sorry to mislead any one into following pursuits, which a variety of contingent causes might after all disappoint him in. The price of the sheep, in the first place, is very various, according to their quality, and whether they are clean or "scabby;" the nature and extent of the run, its being well watered or badly watered; the distance from town, and corresponding facility of access for the transport of wool and stores, the great or small demand of wethers by the butchers, the price of wool obtained in England, all combine to make the task of compiling correct calculations as to profits, one which I

have no ambition to undertake, however well it might set off this chapter. In general terms, I may state, that the half of the wool ought to pay all the expenses, and the increase, with the remaining half of the clip, constitute the profits of the year.

I have already stated, and I repeat it, that the legitimate occupation of a sheep-farmer, who will stick to that, and that alone, and not meddle with other speculations, and, in particular, if the owner of the sheep will take the trouble to look after them himself, and live at the station, is one which will, in the long run, satisfy, by its results, the most sanguine, and lay the sure foundation of future prosperity or independence. Above all, let no one go to South Australia, and set to work in this, or any other occupation, with the intention of making a fortune in any given time, and then leave it again; let him take my advice, and save himself the discomforts of a long sea voyage, by stopping at home, for disappointment will be his lot. I have known many instances of the kind alluded to; people who had the moral certainty within their reach of becoming independent, and procuring for themselves and children every rational comfort and enjoyment which this world can bestow, but whose restless ambition and craving for riches would not allow them to leave well alone, and led them into wild speculations, which were visited with ruin and the utter destruction of their former respectable independence.

And how unjust has been, in England, the opinion

formed of the Australian colonies, in consequence of the fearful monetary crisis which has raged in all the different provinces, but in a ten-fold degree in New South Wales. Not very long since, to say that you had been in Australia, caused by no means an accession of friendly feeling towards you. No epithet was bad enough as applied to a country where parties in England had sent their funds, to be invested, without ever seeing interest or principal back again. But this feeling is rapidly wearing away; people begin to discriminate between the country itself, and those whose disreputable acts would have given that country a bad name; and no one need be deterred, by those events, from seeking that independence, and a happy peaceful home for both parent and child, which, to the real and true colonist, all the Australian colonies will afford.

No artificial food is required to be grown for the sheep or cattle, such as turnips, mangold-wurzel, or hay; stock of every description is, in the country, kept out of doors the whole year round, and even during lambing no kind of cover is provided for the sheep; we certainly occasionally lose some lambs, if the weather is more than usually boisterous or cold, and it is sometimes really pitiable to see them shaking and shivering in the cold; but if they get over their birth-day they are safe enough, as they soon become hardy, and are able to pick the young grass in a very few days, and skip and frolic about, delightful to look at.

I do not here enter into any circumstantial details regarding the management of sheep or other stock; to do it in a manner to be of use to the intending colonist, would far exceed the limits I have assigned to myself in this volume, but I have much pleasure in recommending to those who wish for further information on the subject, to purchase the interesting little work of the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, entitled "The Emigrant's Guide," (Orr & Co.) in which he will find several chapters on the breeding and management of sheep, cattle, and horses, which will be found, with a few deviations, quite applicable to South Australia.

The butter and cheese made in South Australia, have been extensively exported, and have acquired a great reputation. The breeding of cattle and horses is not pursued on so extensive a scale as in New South Wales and Port Phillip. As our mines will now require a large additional number of both bullocks and horses, these branches will receive a great stimulus.

The life of a settler, on the whole, is one which has infinite charms for a young man; he may fancy himself lord of the soil, to the utmost stretch of his imagination; he may get on his horse and gallop over "hill and brae," baring his brow to the breeze, and throwing all cares to the winds. The routine of a sheep-station is an unvaried life of simple enjoyment; it does not fully occupy the time of a settler, but gives him plenty of leisure to cultivate his own

mind by reading, or other studies, in the intervals that he is cultivating the soil, fresh from the hand of nature, for his bodily wants. Does he feel tired of sedentary occupations, there is his staunch nag grazing in the paddock, ready to afford him the means of taking a "burst" after an "emu," "kangaroo," or "dingo," accompanied by his faithful hounds; or he may prolong his gallop and visit a neighbour, where he is sure to meet with a hearty welcome and sterling hospitality. Does, perchance, care, or "blue devils" intrude upon him,

> "Or should, some wayward hour, the settler's mind
> Brood sad on scenes for ever left behind,"
>
> (CAMPBELL.)

there is his never-failing remedy close at hand; seated before his large fire place in the dim twilight of evening, with outstretched legs, the little "black pipe" is made to do "good service and true;" his eye watches the curling pyramids of smoke, as they gracefully ascend to his thatched roof; with every whiff he feels himself better, his thoughts are revelling in the fairy realms of the imagination; when all his romantic ideas are suddenly dissipated by the boisterous chorus of his dogs, announcing the arrival of a neighbour, or traveller, and the necessity of providing for his wants in the shape of "vulgar damper and tea."

CHAPTER X.

THE MINING INTEREST.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS—THE GEOLOGICAL FORMATION OF THE COLONY—CLASSIFICATION OF THE ROCK SYSTEM—MINERALS—IRON ORES.

"Immense mineral wealth has been opened in South Australia."
Lord Stanley's Speech. March 3rd, 1846.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA was already rapidly advancing towards a prosperous state; it had recovered from the shock it sustained during the years of depression, which had retarded, though not crushed, its rising importance; the settlers, generally, were fast getting out of debt, though none of them were rich, when a new impetus was given to their industry, by the discovery, in 1843, of rich mineral deposits in different parts of the Province, made doubly important by the fact, that, in South Australia, no reserves are made by the Government with regard to minerals; by which means the owner of the soil was at liberty to extract those metallic ores from the ground, unfettered by Government interference.

At the time when these discoveries were made, (most of them from fortuitous circumstances,) the colony might be said to have reached the very lowest point of its depression. It makes one smile, seeing the thousands of pounds sterling which are now being applied by the colonists to mining pur-

poses, what a "change has come o'er the spirit of the times." In the year 1843, the *large* quantity of 598 acres of land were sold by the Government, producing the very respectable sum of £613. 13*s*. 9*d*. People were sick at the very idea of buying an acre of ground, and whereas *now*, every section of land which is put up for sale by Government, is minutely scrutinized, I might almost say with microscopic care, to discover any hidden treasures it might contain, part of those 598 acres above-mentioned, namely the original section of the present valuable Kapunda Mine, was advertised in the Government Gazette for a whole month, according to the regulations, without any one troubling himself to go and look at it; by which means the present proprietors, who were alone aware of the existence of copper on it, purchased it for the upset price, without opposition, although any one of the many land-orders then in the colony unexercised, might have claimed it.

Many people might wonder, that these metallic veins, cropping out as they do in many places on the surface, were not discovered long before; 300,000 acres were surveyed and appropriated by the different purchasers of land, and 300,000 acres more were surveyed and are still open to selection, and not a vestige of copper or lead was observed on them at the time; but one leading cause of this was, that parties who wanted land, always selected it, where practicable, for the rich quality of the soil; by this means they carefully avoided anything approaching to rocky or scrubby land, which latter are very

generally the distinguishing features of country in which to look for minerals. The existence of the valuable metals was unsuspected by any one, excepting the geologist, Mr. Menge, who always foretold that the hills were metalliferous; those steep hills, therefore, where some rich mines have since been opened, were not ascended or inspected by the settlers, for the simple reason, that no man would, without a special object, go over a hill when he could go round it. Further, in travelling through the colony, people prefer going along beaten tracks; every one travelling on horseback, many persons may probably have passed over or near the mineral out-croppings, and not have cast their eyes on the ground, or if they did, probably not one in a hundred would have been struck with the unusual appearance in the colour of the rock. The shepherds, however, who follow the flocks from morning to night, over hill and dale, were the most likely persons to have discovered them; but these, it is obvious, being uneducated ignorant people, would not know that one stone was more precious than another. Thus, up to a very recent period, all the valuable discoveries were the result of mere accident, as will be noticed in speaking of the several mines.

After one or two of the mines had been worked for a short time, and when people saw that such undertakings were likely to turn out something more than mere subjects to rail and laugh at, (as was the case with the first mines,) it was astonishing to see how suddenly, we all appeared to become

learned in mining matters and mineralogy. Nothing was, or is now talked of, but copper or lead; hot days or cold days, early or late, people were to be met with amongst the hills, searching for mines far and near, almost bent double under the weight of massive hammers, and bags of stones, and most unmercifully were the poor rocks knocked about. As might be expected, most of them had their journeys for nothing, and were at great trouble in carrying weighty stones for many miles, only to find out that they were but stones after all, or else iron ores, which I may say, *en passant*, almost every acre of land contains more or less throughout the colony, but are of little value in the absence of coal.

The importance of legitimate mining undertakings to the colony generally, was, however, soon impressed upon even the most timid and unbelieving; and already, at this early period, by the activity with which they were prosecuted, in little more than two years' time, has the produce of the South Australian mines obtained a respectable and important footing in the English market. It needs no prophetic spirit to foretell, that in a very few years our mining interest will be a formidable rival to all other competitors, whether European or foreign. There is no such promising or legitimate field for the employment of British capital, as South Australia now holds forth; every circumstance which can conduce to the successful development of

mining speculations is essentially in favour of our colony; and none of the causes which made most of the South American and other foreign mining concerns, since 1825, unprofitable to a proverb, can be anticipated, to cloud the sun of prosperity which has just risen over our favoured province. South Australia, in this, as in every other branch of industry, will bear the closest scrutiny, and strictest examination. It needs but to make the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, known, to convince the British public, that the time is come, when their capital ought to be diverted from being employed in foreign countries, amongst people with whom they have no genial and kindred tie of language or religion, where they have little law and less security, to a province which forms a portion of the British Empire, is inhabited by their countrymen, under the rule of British protection and British laws, and which moreover affords them prospects such as few of the vaunted foreign mines can compete with.

Acting therefore on the principle of avoiding every word which might be deemed approaching to exaggeration, I will confine myself strictly to the analyses of this important subject in all its bearings.

THE GEOLOGICAL FORMATION OF THE HILLS.

The settled portion of the province of South Australia, is traversed from south to north by a range of hills, of an elevation not exceeding 3,100

feet above the level of the sea; the extent to which these ranges have been examined, beginning at Cape Jervis in the south, is about 200 miles; in the whole length of which metalliferous veins have been discovered cropping out on the surface, at intervals of 20 or 30 miles; the main range, with the numerous spurs striking off from it, may therefore be considered decidedly metalliferous, the rock formation being the same throughout, and of those varieties most congenial to the deposit of metallic veins, viz. clay slate, from the indurated to the decomposed series, mica slates, granite and gneiss; the two latter are, however, less abundant than the former.

Granite shews itself in different places, principally in the beds of rivers, or at the bottom of deep gullies; sometimes also forming some of the high peaks, as in the Barossa Ranges. Other heights are capped with the old red-sandstone, and a recent oolitic limestone covers the clay slate of many of the lower hills.

Mr. Menge, (an eminent German mineralogist, who has been for several years exploring the country, and long foretold the mineral wealth of the colony, without being believed) says of the rock formations, in alluding to his early explorations—

"I resumed the stratified primitive rocks on the east side of both gulfs, St. Vincent and Spencer, beginning from Cape Jervis, where the mica slate appeared again, accompanied by a formation of gneiss on one side, and another of clay slate on the other side.

The formation of gneiss I found frequently interlined with extensive banks or strata of granite, which often run out into pure quartz, which change increased my favourable opinion of the rock, particularly when I found the rock of gneiss losing the constituent or essential portion of quartz in its mixture. Some tourmaline occurs now and then in the banks of granite; but where the granite turns into quartz, the titanium appears associated with iron, forming the ore called titaniron. The gneiss, besides its predominant parts of mica and felspar, assumes gradually staurotide to a considerable extent, which, however, alternates with garnet in several places. In turning to the rock of mica slate, I found numerous strata of iron, mostly oxide of iron, partly in the form of brown or red iron ore, and partly in that of specular or oligistous iron, sometimes diverging, sometimes converging, in their respective stratifications. The brittle part of the formation of mica slate has produced, in many instances, barren tracts of country, as the rock consisting of mica and quartz only, produces nothing but sand, when dissolved and levelled by the change of the atmosphere; but these occurrences prove very favourable for exploring geologists, in guiding them to the internal resources of the country. Between the mica slate and the formation of clay slate, I found the primitive limestone very frequently setting in, not only in its pure state, but also with a numerous train of substances adhering to this interesting formation. In the same manner as the strata of granite in gneiss are changed into a granulated quartz, the strata of primitive limestone turn into a compact hornstone, in which the metals of the mica slate on one side, and those of the clay slate on the other, are frequently deposited. Instead of a regular continuation of the above-mentioned substratum of the amphibolic or hornblende slate, a variety of amphibolic rocks accompany the limestone as well as the hornstone, and these two substances produce in their variations, and in their peculiar mixtures, an endless variety of very interesting ornamental stones.

The clay slate occurs in all its modifications in colour and mixture, being a compound of quartz, clay, and lined with calcareous

and magnesian substances, which frequently enter into its composition; the rock retains a predominant grey colour, and changes only in some parts into blue slate, and in others into white. This clay is stratified with thick walls of quartz, which, by its resisting hardness against the dissolving power of the atmosphere, juts out of the slate like hills, and often disappoints the expectation of the wanderer."

In order to be more easily referred to, I have arranged the list of rock formations and minerals found in the colony according to the usual classifications, taking "Phillips" and "Page's" works as guides. Many of those here enumerated, were forwarded by Governor Grey to the British Museum, having been principally collected by Deputy Surveyor-General Burr, from whose published notes I have derived much valuable information in compiling these chapters.

THE ROCK SYSTEM.

1. Primary.

Granite. Of the varieties—

Coarse porphyritic, fine red, and grey granite; also binary, with green tourmalines.

Gneiss.

Mica and *chlorite schist, Hornblende schist.*

Quartz rock, with shorl, primitive limestone, and marbles, or crystalline limestone.

Clay slates.

2. Transition or Intermediate.

Flinty slates.

Slaty sandstones, grauwacke.

Red and green porphyritic rocks.

3. Secondary.

Sandstone, red and micaceous, *soft slate, iron stone and clay.*
Magnesian limestone.
Conglomerate beds.
Gypsum; fine white grained sandstone, like chalk.

4. Tertiary Strata.

Tertiary limestone and clays.

1. Earthy Minerals.

Silex, alumina, glucina, &c.

Quartz of the crystallized, compact, zeolite, woodstone, flint and hornstone species.

Opals—(viz. precious, wax, catseye, ribbon, and jasper opal;) also hydrophane, *id est*, devoid of transparency unless immersed in water (Menge).

Beryl, emerald, topaz, &c. (Menge.)

Chalcedony, various kinds; also cachalong and agates, cornelian, onyx, woodstone, &c.

Jasper. Garnet and *cinnamon* stone. *Idocrase. Epidote.*

Hornblende in its several species, sahlite, grammatite, asbestos, actynolite, sappare, &c.

Slate, (for roofing purposes in abundance).

A great many kinds of clay alumina, pipe and other clays of a variety of colours; also a fine variety of porcelain earth; *Cyanite.*

2. Alkaline Earthy Minerals.

Mica, in all its varieties.

Schorl, rubbalite, beryl, tourmaline, (black and apple green,) nephrite, chlorite.

Talc, steatite, and meerschaum magnesite, soapstone, fuller's earth, agalmatolythe, &c.

Feldspar.

Lava, red and black, from Mount Schanck, and cellular wacke.

3. Acidiferous Earthy Minerals.

Wavellite.

Dolomite (species dolomite magnesian limestone.)

Bitter Spar, particularly in silicious veins, containing gold (Menge).

Limestone, every variety, including carrara, white and grey marble.

Tuffa (silicious and calcareous.)

Gypsum. *Barytes*.

4. Acidiferous Alkaline Earthy Minerals.

Alum. *Sulphate of soda*, or *Glauberite* and *nitrate of soda*.

5. Metalliferous Minerals.

Iron.

Manganese.

Tin, (small quantity found.)

Titanium.

Antimony. (Native, small quantity.)

Copper.

Lead.

Native Quicksilver, (locality as yet unknown).

Zinc, (reported)

Gold, (exact locality uncertain,) specimen in the Museum at Derby, brought home by Colonel Gawler.

6. Combustible Minerals.

Plumbago. *Bitumen*.

Coal, (reported, but locality unknown.)

Before entering upon the details of the more valuable metals, I may briefly allude to the iron ores, which, probably, will at no distant period be likewise made available for our uses, when the arrangements for smelting have been completed.

The existence of iron ores in the greatest abundance and purity, has long been known; owing to the want of coal (the existence of which, like that of gold and quicksilver, is rumoured, but not yet verified,) and the depression under which the colony so long laboured, this useful metal has never been regarded with that attention which it deserves, and

now, for the time being, its value is thrown into the shade by the abundance of copper and lead recently discovered, the working of which offers a certain profit. It may therefore not be out of place to insert here, the different qualities which are known to exist, and which, doubtless, will at some future period be made available. They are as follows:—

SULPHURETS.

Pyrites in cubes, in limestone, and also in quartz.
do. hepatic, in pentagonal dodecahedrons on quartz.
do. in clay slate. 125 feet below the surface.
do. in quartz, traversing clay slate.
do. in gneiss.
do. in hornstone.
do. in bitter spar.
do. with copper ore, and hornblende in feldspar.
do with hornblende and quartz.

OXIDES.

Magnetic ore, possessing polarity.
do. crystallized, in limestone.
do. with grammatite.
Specular iron ore.
Micaceous iron ore.
Black and red Hœmatite.
Titaneous iron ore.
Red, brown, and yellow oxides combined with quartz, asbestos, grammatite and actynolite.
Red oxide with cellular opal.
Fine specimens of ironglance.
Native iron in many places, in large amorphous masses.

Mr. Fortnum remarks on this subject:—

"It is worthy of remark, that the different iron

ores discovered in South Australia, are, with very few exceptions, entirely free from arsenic. In many places large veins of iron ore of 15, 20, and even 40 feet in width exist, consisting of settled lodes of heavy compact oxide of iron, entirely free from either arsenic or sulphur, and cropping out on the surface, ready, in fact, to be broken up for the purpose of reduction; many of these are more or less magnetic. Some samples have been reduced and found to yield excellent iron, with but one smelting."

It must also be borne in mind, that the iron produced from wood-smelting is the best of all, and that, although we have not as yet any coals, the supply of wood is almost inexhaustible. The iron ores will therefore, doubtless, at a future period, command considerable attention.

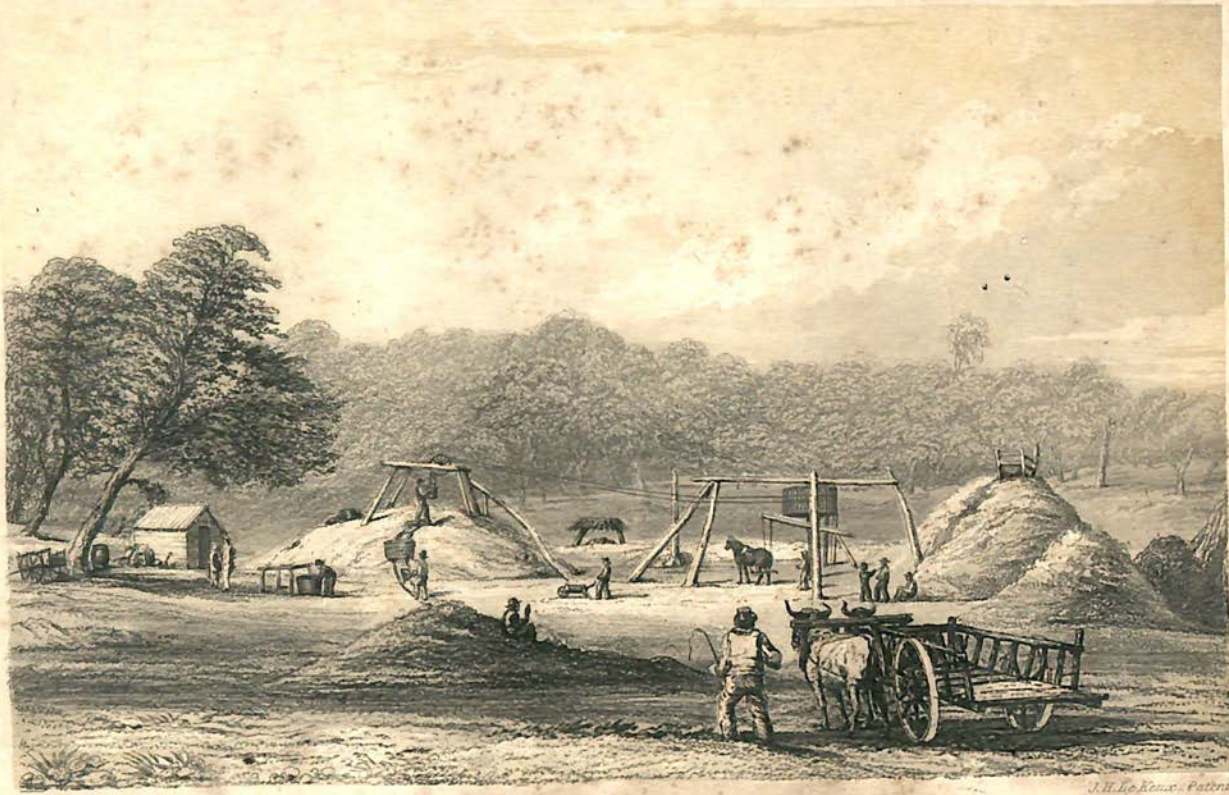
CHAPTER XI.

THE COPPER AND LEAD MINES.

The Kapunda Copper Mine.

This mine is situated close to the river Light, 45 miles due north of Adelaide.

It was discovered in the latter part of 1842, by the youngest son of Captain Bagot, whilst gathering some wild flowers in the plain, and shortly afterwards by myself, not far from the same spot, but on a rise or hillock, to the top of which I had ridden in order to obtain a view of the surrounding country; one of our flocks of sheep having been dispersed during a thunder-storm, and I being at the time in search of them. After being out nearly the whole day in drenching rain, and benumbed with cold, I ascended this little hill, prior to returning home, for one last survey of the surrounding country; the very spot I pulled the horse up at, was beside a large protruding mass of clay slate, strongly tinged and impregnated with the green carbonate of copper. My first impression was that the rock was covered with a beautiful green moss, but, on getting off the horse, I quickly found, by breaking off a piece from it, that the tinge was as bright in the fracture as on the surface. My acquaintance with mineralogy was not sufficient to enable me to pronounce on the



R.T. Scilly

J.H. le Keux, Patns.

THE KAPUNDA COPPER MINE.

precise character of the rock, but I had little doubt it was tinged with copper, from the close resemblance of the colour to verdigris. Ever since my school days I had retained the habit of examining rocks or stones, whenever my attention was arrested by any curious appearance in them; a habit which I acquired at Hofwyl, Mr. de Fellenberg's celebrated institute, where I passed three happy years of my youth; it being the custom for the pupils to make annual pedestrian tours through the mountain districts of Switzerland, in which, beautiful minerals abound; and I am happy to have the opportunity of recording the grateful recollection I retain of that admirable educational establishment.

To Captain Bagot, with whom I had long been on intimate terms, I confided my discovery, when he also produced a similar specimen which was found by his son, and on a subsequent visit to the place, we found that the two spots were within close proximity of each other, although, at first, from the one being on a hill and the other in the plain, we thought they were two different places. To make a long story short, we soon ascertained that the specimens were undoubtedly copper ores; the discovery was kept of course secret; we got 80 acres surveyed, all the forms as laid down by the old land-sales regulations were complied with; the section was advertised for a whole month in the Government Gazette, and we became the purchasers of it at the fixed Government price for waste lands

of £1 per acre. At that time there were still a number of "eighty-acre land orders" unexercised in the colony, any one of which might have claimed this section; nor could we attempt to buy one of them without running the risk of exciting attention, and we therefore preferred quietly waiting for the expiration of the usual time required, and then tendering the money, trusting to the general depression of the times, that no one would feel inclined just then to become possessed of any more land, in which we were not mistaken.

Having secured the land, the next step was to ascertain the value of the ores, and whether they would remunerate us in working them. To ascertain this we sent a box of specimens to England, and did not begin working the mine till the encouraging report of Mr. Perceval Johnston reached us, which gave an average of 23 per cent. for the surface out-croppings. We then lost no time to begin working with a small body of men. The day fixed for commencing the mine was made a holiday; the weather being hot, Captain Bagot fitted up one of the drays with a canvas hood, for the accommodation of the ladies, and in this primitive fashion of travelling, the gentlemen being on horseback, a large party proceeded to the mine (distant from Captain Bagot's residence of Koonunga about five miles) where Mr. Menge opened the proceedings by an interesting address on mining in general, and the Kapunda mine in particular, after which "the first

ground was broken;" the ceremony ending in by far the most interesting portion of our labours, of discussing the cold collation, Mrs. Bagot and the other ladies had meanwhile been unpacking from sundry hampers and boxes.

Amongst the general population of the colony there were some few Cornish miners, who were quietly following pastoral and agricultural pursuits; when we gave notice of intending to commence working the mine, the pickaxe was quickly resumed by them, and we gave them a liberal "tribute" for the first year, (3*s.* 6*d.* per £1) to set the thing going. These men were highly successful, and raised a considerable quantity of rich ore.

The place itself was a perfect wilderness; the men had to live for some months in tents, until we could get houses built for them; the nearest drinkwater was in the "Light," half a mile off, and that very brackish; nor was it till we had sank wells in several parts of the property that we succeeded in finding good fresh spring water, all the other wells that we sank being tainted by the copper. The locality has now a very different appearance; several rows of substantial stone cottages, on a uniform plan, are already erected, a hill of clay slate on the property affording excellent building stone, which being tinged more or less with copper, give the walls of the cottages a pretty mottled appearance. The miners having their families now living with them, are happy and contented, and are not

continually interrupting the progress of the works by wanting to go to town as they formerly did A blacksmith's forge is also erected on the property, where the miner's tools are made and repaired, the iron and steel being sent out for that purpose from England. A chapel, which will also serve as a school-house, is by this time completed.

The whole of the intervening country between Kapunda and Port Adelaide, is very easy and practicable for the transport of the ores; at the commencement of our operations it soon became apparent, that unless the drays, on passing to and fro, all kept the same road, they would only cut up the ground without consolidating the track. To obviate this, Captain Bagot, with his usual energy, hit upon an ingenious and novel plan. He started with a bullock-dray, to which a plough was attached, and planting small flag-staffs as guides in advance, he had a single furrow thrown up, a few inches deep, the whole way from the mine to Gawler Town, a distance of eighteen miles. About two miles from where the mine road joins the Gawler Town road the plough broke, the day being then already far advanced; but, nothing daunted, he caused the men to lop off a limb of a tree having a fork at one end, substituting this for the plough, the line or furrow was completed by sundown.

A plough furrow is not easily effaced, so the drays had a good guiding line to follow, and by always keeping on the same track, the road in a

very short time became completely formed, and is now one of the best beaten roads in the colony. From Gawler Town to Port Adelaide, the whole distance is over a plain as level as a bowling-green, and well beaten.

The ore is all carted to the shipping port on these drays, holding two tons each, and drawn in summer by six bullocks, during the wet weather by eight. They reach Gawler Town the first night, eighteen miles; next day to the Dry Creek eighteen miles more, and the following morning they are early at the Port; the convoys consist of eight or ten teams, and are enabled to make the journey with ease, once every ten days, besides carrying up to the mine, on their return, all supplies, &c. that may be wanted there. The cartage is all done by contract; for last year, (1845,) the contracts were taken at 22*s.* 6*d.* per ton, which is probably as cheap as it could be carted for the same distance in England.

The original property consisted of eighty acres: we thought at the time, we had taken in our survey all the copper ground that was apparent to the eye from surface indications. We were, however, mistaken. To the south of our boundary, and close to it, other out-croppings, though less extensive than on our land, were soon discovered, not alone by our men but by other people; the consequence was, that applicants soon came forward to have the land to the south of our mine surveyed, which was done

by the Government to the extent of 100 acres more; this section was put up to auction last April, and bought after a sharp contest by Captain Bagot, on our joint account, for the large sum of £2,210: the competition shewing how the attention of the colonists had already then been drawn to the importance of mining operations. The little ground that has as yet been broken in this 100 acre block, laid open lodes of the richest copper, close to the surface, and of considerable extent; so much so, that a very few weeks sufficed to extract sufficient ore to pay for the cost of the whole.

The copper ground runs through nearly the whole length and breadth of these 180 acres, from a direction bearing a point or two of north and south; wherever a shaft has been sunk, up to the present time, numbers of small strings of ore were cut in following down the main veins, which descend with a south underlay, in regular defined lodes, on an inclination, a few degrees removed from the perpendicular; indeed, the appearance of the sides of the shafts, is in many places very beautiful, the matrix being indurated, and decomposed clay-slate, veined throughout with green, blue, and brown colours, making it resemble, in appearance, some of the variegated Italian marbles.

The description of ore found in the Kapunda mines is principally composed of the carbonates and sulphurets. A large number of specimens of every variety, were, as soon as we began working, trans-

mitted to England for analysis, we keeping half of the specimens at the mines for subsequent reference. The average produce, gave a result of 29⅞ per cent. of copper, for 39 specimens, good, bad, and indifferent, taken from every part of the property,—the following being the different descriptions found:—

Grey sulphuret with green carbonate; produce, 53½ per cent.
Black sulphuret with ditto; 23½, 24, 33⅛, 44½, 50¼, 59½ per cent.
Pale green carbonate; 26⅞, 33, 34½, 40½, 41½, 48½ per cent.
Blue carbonate, (hydrocarbonate;) 21½ per cent.
Grey carbonate with red oxide; 28½ per cent.
Dark green carbonate; 28¾ per cent.

These assays were conducted by Mr. Penrose, the Government assayer at Swansea, and their correctness was fully substantiated by the sales at Swansea of part of our first year's (1844) produce, which were as follows, leaving out fractional parts:

SALES OF KAPUNDA COPPER ORES AT SWANSEA, 1845.

							£.	s.	d.
10 tons sold in the first instance at Liverpool							210	0	0
At Swansea:									
July, to October	23½ tons	at	£21	9	6	-	505	0	0
	59 do.	„	23	5	0	-	1374	0	0
	31½ do.	„	30	7	6	-	964	0	0
	40½ do.	„	25	15	6	-	1050	0	0
	47 do.	„	23	11	0	-	1116	0	0
	41 do.	„	24	11	6	-	1006	0	0
	252½						£6225	0	0

Average of the whole £24. 8s. 6d.

The number of miners employed during the first year's operations at Kapunda, namely in 1844, was as follows:—

January	3	August	12
February	4	September	12
March	5	October	10
April	8	November	13
May	12	December	12
June	13		
July	11		116

116 divided by 12 gives an average of 9¾ men employed for each month. Only 252 tons, as above, was shipped; the total quantity raised in 1844 was considerably more, not counting large heaps of what we thought at the time was refuse and poor ore, but which I have ascertained from samples brought with me to England, to be worth £19. 5*s.* per ton.

The work was all done by tribute and tutwork, as in the Cornish mines.

The principal workings at Kapunda are called respectively Wheal Dutton, and Wheal Charles, after their discoverers. In Wheal Charles, being low ground, water was cut at 10 fathoms; and Captain Bagot, (to whose activity, difficulties act only as additional incentives,) shortly after my departure, himself directed the construction of a horse whim, with which the workings are now being vigorously prosecuted. In sinking a larger shaft in Wheal Charles, to unwater the others, the clay,

at first white, became darker and darker, till at about eight fathoms depth, it was of an inky colour. Out of mere curiosity I took a handful from one of the buckets as it came up, the last day I was at the mine, in February 1845, which I brought with me, and to my utter astonishment, on having it assayed, found it impregnated with the black oxide of copper to the extent of 45 per cent.

Wheal Dutton is a hill of indurated clay slate; it is from this hill we obtain the excellent stone for building purposes; being situated higher than Wheal Charles, no water has as yet been met with here. From this part of the property, that very rare mineral, muriate of copper, or acatamite, has been extracted; it is found combined with green carbonate, in solid veins, and exceedingly beautiful specimens, in a foliated state of crystalization, have been met with. Dr. Ure's chemical analysis of this mineral (March 1846) produced the following result:—

Specific gravity 3.05.

"100 parts consist of—

1. Submuriate of Copper - -	39.5
(Containing 27 of copper, considered in the state of an oxide.)	
2. Carbonate of copper (30 of oxide) - - -	60.5
	100.0

"There is a trace of oxide of iron in it. Thus 100 parts of that metal contain 57 of oxide of copper, equivalent to 45.6 of metallic copper—worth £35 per ton."

I believe this ore has never before come to England in a marketable state; it has hitherto been principally confined to what is known to mineralogists as the "green sand of Peru," and is found in very small quantities in the River Lipas, in the Desert of Acatama, which separates Chili from Peru, (whence acatamite.)*

The chemical analyses of the grey sulphuret of copper from Kapunda, under Dr. Ure's treatment, gave the following interesting result:—

"Specific gravity 4.36.

100 parts lose 15 by calcination; the remainder being acted upon by nitric acid, and the solution after filtration precipitated by soda, washed and ignited, yields 68 parts of oxide of copper, equivalent to 54.4 of metallic copper (worth £40 per ton,) residuum 8.5, of insoluble silicious matter. It contains a trace of silver in the state of a chloride, and is to be extracted by digesting the roasted ore in water of ammonia, and then saturating the filtered solution with muriatic acid."

This is of much importance to know, as some of the grey sulphurets of the mines at Freyberg contain,

* A very fine specimen, weighing 20lbs. of this mineral was presented by me to the British Museum, and has been honoured by being placed in a conspicuous place, where the curious can view it; the label designates it as Carbonate and Chloride of Copper, the latter name being synonymous to muriate; I believe it is the only specimen of the kind in the Museum.

according to Prof. Rose, 31.29 of silver, those of Fürstenberg 17.71 parts.

The Kapunda copper ores, as well as the rich pyrites from the Montacute mine, are in high repute at Swansea, owing to their great fusibility, the small quantity of sulphur contained in them, and the fineness of the metal they produce. At the sale at Swansea, in October, the Kapunda ores fetched the very unusual excess of 20*s* per ton above the value, calculated by assay according to the standard of the day. I may also remark, that neither the Cuba or South American mines send any ore, in its rough state (not regulus) to Swansea, which comes up to the average of the Kapunda ores.

Since February 1845, the number of miners and others employed at Kapunda, have considerably increased to what they were in 1844; the prosecution of the works has been highly successful; the accounts reach up to the close of last year, when 1200 tons of ore, equal to any that has as yet been sent to England, had already been raised. An experienced mining captain is on the point of proceeding to South Australia, to take charge and conduct the works at the Kapunda mine on systematic principles.

It is sufficient, in the above brief and authentic particulars of this mine, to give a general idea as to its productiveness. For obvious reasons, being myself interested in it, I do not dilate on this mine

further; the object of this volume is, to give an account of what *has* been done in the colony; the Swansea Sales lists will be the faithful chroniclers of what may be done hereafter.

Some handsome specimens of the blue malachite, or hydrocarbonate of copper, have been worked up and polished by jewellers, for brooches, &c., and look very well.

No. 2. *The Montacute Copper Mine.*

This mine is situated in the Mount Lofty range of hills, abutting on the Adelaide Plains; it is distant from Adelaide ten miles; from the port sixteen miles.

It was discovered by Mr. Andrew Henderson, the overseer of Mr. Fortnum; being in search of a bullock who had strayed away during the night, he determined to climb that spur in the range, now known as the mine; during his ascent he remarked the green colour of a perpendicular face of rock, and on reaching the summit of this, observed a singular mass of brown and green mineral, a piece of which he broke, and brought home a fragment. Mr. Fortnum, himself a chemist and mineralogist, at a glance recognized it as copper ore of a rich quality. The old saying, that "discretion is the better part of valour," ought to have been recollected by the discoverers; the secret was entrusted to some, who again entrusted it to others, until it reached the Survey Office, when, of course, the origi-

nal discoverer, and Mr. Fortnum, both lost their chance of securing possession of it, without the competition of a public sale. The Government had eighty acres surveyed, which was brought to auction on the 16th February, 1844, (the new regulations having, at that period, come into operation).

The out-croppings of copper on this section were very extensive, and considerable excitement prevailed on the day of sale, as to who would become the purchaser; at that time little certain was known about the value of the Kapunda ores, and still less about the value of the ore on this section; whilst many people were therefore inclined to bid, few were confident enough to give any very high price for it: my brother, Mr. Frederick Dutton, was the chief mover amongst those who had sufficient confidence in ultimate results, and after some persuasion, Messrs. Baker, Hagen, and Hart, acceded in his views. On the day of sale, Mr. Baker was deputed to bid as high as £4000. for the section; when the bidding reached £1550. their opponents lost courage, and Mr. Baker became the purchaser at that price. A few hours after the sale they resold thirty hundred parts for the cost of the whole, (at a value of £5000. for the whole,) in £50. shares, the property being merged into the present Montacute Mining Company.

The ore found in this mine is a rich "Pyrites," with the variety called "peacock ore," and at their deepest level, about ten fathoms, having the appear-

ance of merging into the carbonates and sulphurets; the matrix or rock is composed of clay slate, of a hard texture. A stream of beautiful fresh water runs, the whole year round, through this property, affording great facilities for washing the ore, and other purposes; the workings are by levels and shafts; being situated high up the face of the hill, with a steep fall, they are neither obstructed in their works by the presence of water, or the accumulation of rubbish.

The mine is separated from the Adelaide Plain by a steep wall of hills, which the drays transporting the ores have to cross; once over this, the road is perfectly level all the way to the port. That the difficulties of this pass were not insurmountable, may be gleaned from the fact, that the contractor for the transport undertook to make a road across the hill, and deliver 500 tons of ore at the port for £500., or £1. per ton; after the expiration of that contract, the cost of transport would be less than half.

The mine has been actively worked since February 1844; during that year about 600 tons were raised, 331 tons of which reached England during 1845, and realised in the aggregate the sum of £4548. 10*s*. The ores are not so rich as those from Kapunda; specimens have been analysed as high as 33 per cent. and above; but the average cannot as yet be taken higher than 18 or 18½ per cent.; or about the average of a large portion of the Santiago ores.

The produce for 1845 is, as far as the accounts reach, estimated at from 6 to 800 tons; quality of ore and size of lodes improving.

Mr. Burr, Mr. Menge, and other practical authorities, consider the mine as one of great promise. The interests of the proprietors of this and the other copper and lead mines will undoubtedly be furthered by their engaging, as soon as possible, the assistance of practical Cornish mining captains, as the proprietors of the Kapunda mine have done. There are doubtless many people now in the colony, who, in their own estimation at least, think themselves quite clever enough to conduct the works of a mine; but what in England requires the practical experience of a lifetime to qualify a person to give an opinion on, can surely not be less wanted in the colony, where mistakes made in opening the mines may in a few years take thousands of pounds to rectify; and the success which has hitherto attended them all, is more owing to the extraordinary quantity of the mineral deposit near the surface, than to any discrimination on the part of those, who have hitherto been allowed, by the different proprietors, to direct the sinking of shafts and driving of levels.

Fine specimens of native copper have been found here, and also at Kapunda.

Several sections, with mineral indications, have since been surveyed by Government all round, and adjoining the Montacute mine; several of these

have been purchased by that company; there are, however, two sections, immediately adjoining the original 80 acres, which are still in the hands of the Government; on one of these, a solid lode of ore, four feet in width, of clean pyrites, without a particle of mundic or spar in it, was laid bare a few inches under the surface soil;* the Montacute Company long since applied to have this section put up to auction with the others, but up to the latest dates, the Governor has refused to accede to this; his Excellency's refusal gave rise to a long and unpleasant correspondence between the company and the colonial authorities, which ended by the whole matter being referred by Governor Grey to Lord Stanley, the result of which has not yet been known. Although the Governor has a certain discretion allowed him by the provisions of the Land Sales Act, with regard to putting up land to auction, he must have had very cogent reasons for withholding this section, whilst he was monthly selling other mineral lands; thus apparently punishing the colonists generally, (by preventing them acquiring a valuable property, before they had to compete with English capital since gone out to the colony,) for the misunderstanding between his Excellency and a private company. Knowing the ill-feeling this unexplained matter created at the time in the colony, and

* I presented a fine specimen of this lode of ore, amongst a variety of others, to the Museum of the Royal Geological Society.

from the great respect I individually entertain for his Excellency Governor Grey, I have much wished to have had it in my power in this volume to clear up the matter; but the official reserve with which the Colonial office is surrounded, is not calculated to facilitate the obtaining of information, even on subjects, which, so far from being state secrets, would be better for all parties concerned, to be elucidated. I have, however, to record my thanks to Lord Stanley, for allowing me the use of the official map of the colony, from the latest surveys of the Surveyor-General, by the aid of which I was enabled to present to my readers the map accompanying this volume, engraved by the well-known and talented hydrographer Mr. Arrowsmith; on this map all the mines in work, and other mineral localities are accurately laid down.

No. 3. *The Mukurta Copper Mine.*

This mine is the property of George Anstey, Esq., of Highercombe; it is situated about three miles north-east of the Montacute mine, and was discovered, like the preceding one, by Mr. A. Henderson, who, with other gentlemen, hold shares in it. This mine has not as yet been worked, further than exploring the lodes. Mr. Anstey succeeded in becoming the purchaser of this section, 150 acres, at the upset price, the existence of the metallic veins being at the time unknown to the surveyors. Mr. Fortnum describes this mine as follows: "This large vein is on the

side of a steep hill of clay slate, at the base of which the river Torrens runs; unlike the other copper lodes, this one takes a course within a few points of E. and W. The lode of gossan is from two to four feet in width, and contains all the indications of a rich course of ore, but as far as the workings at present extend, it has not settled; the ore only occurring in bunches, surrounded with a gossan of the most favourable kind, and varying in colour; in some cases resembling snuff; a kindly spar is intermingled with copper ore; "sugary spar" is in considerable quantity, and the walls of the lode are very clearly defined; one piece of ore was met with weighing upwards of 70lb.: at one part the lode (gossan) swelled out to a width of ten feet, between two well defined walls, intermingled with sugary spar and green stains; the rock is in every direction filled with indications of the immediate vicinity of a very strong lode; the mine is represented by 128 scrip certificates, held in the colony."

No. 4. *The Yattagolinga Copper and Lead Mine.*

This mine was purchased from Government on the same day that the Montacute mine was sold. Mr. Phillips became the purchaser for £350. He has kindly favoured me with the following particulars regarding it:—

"The Yattagolinga mine at Rapid Bay, is situated at the southern extremity of the range of mountains

which intersect South Australia, commencing at Cape Jervis, in the south, and running north, as far as the country has been explored. The mine is on a section of 86 acres, which comprises a range of hills extending nearly east and west, with a valley on either side, north and south, and bounded by the sea on the west, with cliffs from 600 to 800 feet high. Originally it was merely supposed that the section contained lead, but it was soon discovered that it was quite as rich in copper.

"The lodes of lead are found on the surface in numerous places, and are worked with great facility and little expense: some of the ore is almost pure, and the average yields, 75 per cent. of lead, and 18 to 20oz. of silver, per ton of ore. There are also found galena, carbonate of lead, steel-grained and potter's ore.

"The copper lodes are discovered in several places on the top of the mountain, and are also visible in the cliff at a depth of 500 feet, the lodes averaging three to six feet, there are the same facilities for working this as the lead, by driving adits into the side of the hill, which will also serve as an outlet for any water that may be met with. There is grey, yellow, peacock, purple, and some nearly pure ore; the produce, by assay, is 20 to 25 per cent. of copper. There can be but little doubt that the lode which is visible in the cliff will be found to communicate with that which is on the

top of the mountain, as they run in the direction of each other.

"Hitherto the mine has only been worked on a small scale, and about ten tons of ore raised per month, the cost of which has been from £2. to £3. per ton, and with all expenses free on board at Adelaide, has not exceeded £5. There is a river constantly flowing through the valley, which is used for washing the ores, and they are shipped from the Bay and conveyed by small craft to Adelaide for 10*s.* per ton, whence they are re-shipped to England, as ballast for the wool ships.

"The locality offers unusual facilities for operations, as, being on an eminence, the lodes can be intersected by adits in the side of the mountain, serving at the same time, as an outlet for water and refuse, and being so near the place of shipment, all expense of transit by land is avoided. Although the mine has not been worked to any extent, the lodes are all much larger than those of the Montacute, which have been worked with so much success."

No. 5. *The South Australian Company's Copper and Lead Mines.*

This mine was discovered on some land belonging to the above Company, and is situated also at Rapid Bay, not far from Mr. Phillips' mine; a few tons have as yet only been sent home by way of ascertaining the value of the ores; the produce of which

has been, of the copper ore 19 per cent., and of the lead, 66 per cent., and 14oz. 15dwts. of silver; these assays are an average of several samples of each description; the result is therefore highly satisfactory; the same facilities for working and shipping apply to this, as to the Yattagolinga mine.

No. 6. *The Oncaparinga Copper Mines.*

Half-way between Rapid Bay and Adelaide is the River Oncaparinga, on which extensive indications of copper have been discovered; the curious manner in which the proprietors of the several sections in this locality became possessed of them, was noticed in the chapter on the Land Sales Regulations. They have been too recently acquired to have been extensively explored.

No. 7. *Mr. Angas's Copper Mine.*

Mr. George Fife Angas has had the good fortune to find (or, rather, Mr. Menge found for him) a rich vein of copper on part of his extensive estates in South Australia. I have received, from Mr. Angas, the following particulars: he says, "The copper ore I had assayed by Messrs. Johnson and Son, produced 33 per cent. of fine copper. Two well-defined copper lodes, running nearly east and west, have already been discovered in the lands; the back of one of these lodes has been traced for upwards of 200 yards; the examination led to the discovery of rich strings of ore, (from which the above was taken) tending downward between the two well-defined walls about seven feet apart, both lodes take their course into the

hills on either side of the valley of the Gawler. I have also specimens of black oxide of copper from my lands."

The distance from the port is much about the same as the Kapunda mine, though ten miles of the road is not through so easy a country as in the former case. Mr. Angas has lately formed a private company amongst his own friends, to whom he has leased the mine and surrounding land, on advantageous terms, and all the colonists will be glad if the mine turns out to answer his most sanguine expectations, to reward him for the untiring friendship he has, from the earliest days of the existence of the colony, entertained towards it. I may here mention that the son of this gentleman, a young artist of very great promise, has just returned to England, with a large collection of paintings, the fruits of three years persevering labour in New Zealand and South Australia, descriptive of the scenery, portraits of the natives, &c., in those two colonies. Mr. Angas is now exhibiting his interesting paintings in London, prior to their being engraved for publication.

The above, with many other indications, which do not require to be here particularized, formed the principal discoveries amongst the copper mines in South Australia, up to the period of my departure from its shores, in February, 1845; some months previous to that, reports had been rife as to the existence in the "far north" of a "monster mine," as

it was termed, which, to believe the vague reports current, was of such extent as to eclipse every thing which had hitherto been seen or heard of. A shepherd was said to have brought into town rich specimens of grey sulphuret of copper, but the locality for a long time remained wrapped up in mystery; many a search was made for this mine, and long was the search in vain, till every body believed, it was nothing more than a clever hoax to give mine-hunters a jaunt into the country for nothing. At length the mystery was cleared up; the mine really did exist in sober earnest, and the precise spot designated. The excitement which this discovery caused in South Australia was unprecedented; the richness of the ores, and the extensive nature of the surface out-croppings, were all placed beyond the shadow of a doubt; on the one hand, the colonists were in daily expectation of arrivals from England, which might bring out a large amount of English capital, and thus carry off the prize in spite of any thing they could do to secure it for themselves; on the other hand, it soon became evident that nothing short of a special survey block of 20,000 acres would enable them to obtain this mineral district; that being the only means left to them under the regulation for the sales of waste lands, where they had no competition from public auction to contend against. The negociations, and heart-burnings, the rivalries of different interests, the protests and correspondence, with which the papers were filled for several weeks,

were no doubt highly interesting to the parties engaged in them, but are quite foreign to the object of this volume; so I shall confine myself to stating, that, after an immensity of trouble, two several associations, composed of the principal monied interest in the colony, united their forces,* and paid into the colonial treasury twenty thousand sovereigns, by virtue of which they, on the 18th of August, 1845, claimed a special survey of 20,000 acres of land, in the vicinity of the Razorback Mountain, about 100 miles north of Adelaide, now known as the

* For the information of the friends of the several parties interested, in England, I subjoin the list of the appropriation of the several shares, as it was published in the South Australian Gazette.

The following parties represent one section:—

Messrs. Aston and Grainger	£2500
Captain Bagot, for self, F. S. Dutton, and other proprietors of the Kapunda mines	1000
Ditto for two parties in England	1000
Mr. T. Shepherd, Hindley Street	2000
Mr. Joseph Johnston, Reed Beds	2000
Mr. F. Dutton	1000
Mr. G. Tinline	500
Total	£10,000

The remaining section is represented by Captain Allen, Messrs. Stocks, Beck, Hallet, Bunce, Penny, Graham, Featherstone, Waterhouse, W. Sanders, Peacock, Drew, Bouch, M. Smith, and others, including the members of the Mining Association; but the names or the amount of the particular interests of this numerous proprietary, it is of course impossible to state with accuracy sufficient to warrant their publication.

No. 8. *Burra Creek Copper Mines.*

The following is the official report forwarded to England of this survey, by a gentleman of scientific and practical experience, who was deputed to the ground for that purpose by the purchasers.

Locality of the Mineral District.—The hills in which the minerals occur, lie beyond the northern boundary of county "Light," in latitude 33° 40′ south, and longitude 139° 8′ east, bearing from Adelaide north by east about 85 miles, in a direct line, or by the route we travelled about 100 miles distant.

Character of the road from Adelaide.—The road from Adelaide to these mineral hills, is, for the most part, over level or gently undulating country, opposing no obstacles to the progress of heavy carriages.

Geological features of the Mineral District.—The hills range generally north and south—the altitude of their summits varying from about two thousand to two thousand five hundred feet above the level of the sea. Their geological character evidently appertains to the "transition," or secondary formation; vast rocks of quartz are protruded abruptly, through the oldest series of aqueous deposits, having dislodged the primary Schistos so completely, that in many places it appears in perfectly perpendicular stratification, intermixed with large quartz boulders, and fragments of the old red sandstone. There is not even the slightest external indication of any volcanic action ever having been exhibited in the district.

Indications of copper ore.—Having walked over the "Flœtz" formation, we approached a hill which is almost detached from the main range, and ascending it from its south-western base, we quickly found ourselves travelling over the older series of rocks, where quartz and greenstone, with fragments of imperfect porphyry have been thrust up boldly through the old clay slate, and there we saw, at almost every step, strong indications of the presence of rich copper lodes.

These indications at first appeared to us in the shape of spar, containing crystals of the azure blue carbonate of copper, and as we ascended higher on the hill, we found numerous fragments of grey and green sulphuret of copper, attached to quartz and greenstone; ascending still higher we found a continuous out-crop of grey sulphuret of copper exhibited on the surface, averaging about eighteen feet in breadth, and extending over the brow of the hill and down again to the south-eastern base or gully *more than a mile in length.* From this gully another hill arose, which was not so much detached as the first one we inspected, but rather appeared to be a spur from the main range; and just at the point of junction where the above-mentioned extensive out-crop of grey sulphuret of copper disappeared in the gully, we saw a broad and beautiful display of azure blue carbonate of copper, intermixed with quartz, cropping out through the surface, and traceable for upwards of two hundred paces, exposing an average breadth of about fifteen feet. At this place we opened the ground about three or four feet, and found the most favourable indications of a large and regular lode being near at hand; abundance of "gossan" presented itself, and masses of spar containing highly crystalline carbonate of copper, were frequently encountered.

We then proceeded higher up the hill, and found at different elevations, three other distinct and well defined traces of ore; indeed, the hills appeared to be full of it! almost every stone we picked up, betrayed either directly or inferentially, the presence of rich copper lodes. A fragment struck off at random from the corner of a large quartz boulder, exhibited no less than three varieties of ore, (the grey sulphuret, the blue carbonate, and the copper pyrites,) and we could scarcely move a step without observing some kind of mineralogical evidence, indicating the proximity of metalliferous runs.

Probability of more valuable discoveries.—We had not time enough to pursue our search amongst the larger hills, but their geological features are apparently similar, and they evidently belong to the same geological era.

As regards the chemical analyses of these ores, they were, I believe, conducted by Dr. Davis, whose qualifications for that operation have been sufficiently often tested to allow of reliance being placed in their accuracy. They are as follows :—

Analyses of five specimens of copper ore from the lodes at Burra Creek.

(1.)

CRUDE RESULT.		REDUCED RESULT.
62·09	oxide of copper.	49·95 metallic copper.
2·05	oxide of iron.	1·41 metallic iron.
18·29	arseniate of lead.	7·31 arsenic acid.
28·04	insoluble matter.	28·04 insoluble matter.
110·47		86·71
10·98	deduct weight of lead used to separate the arsenic.	12·78 weight of oxygen combined.
99·49		99·49

(2.)

74·46	oxide of copper.	59·44 metallic copper.
2·60	oxide of iron.	1·79 metallic iron.
8·60	arseniate of iron.	2·00 arsenic acid.
19·86	insoluble matter.	19·86 insoluble matter.
105·52		83·69
6·60	deduct weight of iron used to separate the arsenic.	15·83 oxygen in combination.
98·92		98.92

(3.)

66·67	oxyde of copper.	53·23 metallic copper.
2·00	oxyde of iron.	1·39 metallic iron.
11·66	arseniate of iron.	1·66 arsenic acid.
19·20	insoluble matter.	29·20 insoluble matter.
109·53		85·48
10·00	deduct weight of iron used to separate the arsenic.	14·05 oxygen in combination.
99·53		99·53

(4.)		(5.)	
59·44	metallic copper.	44·94	metallic copper.
1·79	metallic iron.	·69	metallic iron.
2·00	arsenic acid.	·50	arsenic acid.
19·83	insoluble matter.	8·20	sulphur.
83·09		11·67	oxygen.
15·83	oxygen in combination.	34·00	insoluble matter.
98·92		100·00	

The analyses of Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, were obtained from the same character of ore—1 and 2 from one specimen, 3 and 4 from another. The portions analysed were taken from different parts of the specimens. In the two first cases, lead was used to separate the arsenic; in the two latter, iron was used for that purpose. This is considered the best means of cleansing a solution from arsenic. In No. 5 iron was used, and the quantity of sulphur was ascertained by the loss, as that substance was burned without having being weighed. This specimen belonged to the variety termed "grey copper ore," and is the only specimen I have seen from the locality which contains sulphur. The insoluble portions, in all cases, appear to contain antimony and silica, but they have not been analysed to ascertain their true composition.

The value of these ores in England, according to the scale forwarded lately to the proprietors of the Kapunda mine, which shewed ore yielding 53.50 per cent., to be worth £39. 15*s.* would be respectively:—

1.	49·95 . . .	£37	2	3
2.	59·44 . . .	44	3	3
3.	53 23 . . .	39	10	9
4.	59 44 . . .	44	3	3
5.	44·94 . . .	35	6	6

Mean value of the ores from the survey on the Burra Creek, £38. 10*s.* 1*d.*

Should the main bulk of the ore turn out to be of equal or approximate value to these assays of small specimens, the value of this mine would appear to be very great indeed. In a few months time, the first consignment of ores from this mine will reach England.

I may add, that the two associations, who each subscribed £10,000 towards this survey, did not think fit to keep the property as an undivided whole (whether judiciously or not time will prove), but had it divided into two equal portions, the first choice being decided by lot.

The northern half fell to the Adelaide Mining Association, and has been called Wheal Grey, after our respected Governor; the southern portion, "or Princess Royal Mines," was apportioned to the section of subscribers, represented by Messrs. Bagot, Aston, and others. The Adelaide Papers I have received reach to the end of October; at that period the Mining Association had commenced working at Wheal Grey with a few men, who, in three weeks time, quarried out 200 tons of what is described as pure red oxide of copper! The papers contain an advertisement calling for tenders for 50 to 100 drays, to cart down the ore to the Port, which of itself speaks volumes.

The "Princess Royal" Company were just about commencing working at the end of October.

Finally, I may be allowed to insert here, the fol-

lowing comparison of the average value of ores, from all the principal mines in the world, compiled from the Swansea Sales' Lists for the past year, 1845; full details of which are given in the Appendix.

COMPARATIVE PRODUCE.

Average produce of the principal Mines in the world. (For particulars *vide* APPENDIX.)

			£	s.	d.	
CUBA	Cobre Mine	average	11	9	1	per ton.
	Santiago	-	14	10	6	
	San José	-	12	11	9	
SOUTH AMERICA.	Chili (principally regulus)		29	13	6	
	Valparaiso ore	-	15	11	11	
	Copiapo	-	18	14	0	
	New Zealand	-	10	10	8	

Average produce of Cornish Mines -	5	15	6
Ditto Irish -	6	8	8
Ditto of South Australian Mines			
Montacute - - -	13	11	2
Kapunda - - -	24	15	3

The average produce of the Kapunda mine is, therefore, at present, the highest of any copper mine in the world.

THE LEAD MINES.

The existence of the ores of lead, or, more correctly speaking, argentiferous galena, (for they all contain silver) has been ascertained to be widely disseminated throughout South Australia; the

proximity, of the veins to the surface, and the produce of metal, are no less encouraging than those of the copper mines. The Ranges, immediately at the back of Adelaide, are at present the principal locality where this ore has been met with in great abundance. The situation of the lead mines, being generally speaking on the western slope of the hills, is very convenient, and of the easiest access; the whole distance from the port to the mouth of the mines being perfectly level. These mines are consequently worked at a trifling expense.

1. *The Glen Osmond Lead Mine*

Is three miles from Adelaide, and nine from the port. The proprietor is Osmond Gilles, Esq., one of the oldest colonists, who was possessed of this property for several years before the existence of lead ore was discovered. The casual displacement of a few inches of soil, by the wheel of a dray passing over it, laid bare the shining galena underneath it. Six or seven different lodes have been opened up the face of the hill; the quantity raised is above 200 tons, and the produce 75 per cent. of lead, with 18 oz. of silver, which averaged a price of £13. 13*s.* per ton, and leaves a large profit, the cost of the ore being stated to be not more than £4. 4*s.* Copper has also been found on the property. A

company has lately been formed in London, called the "Glen Osmond Union Mining Company," with a paid up capital of £30,000, to work this and other mines in the colony.

The lead ores are of the varieties, galena, steel-grained, and carbonate of lead.

Adjoining the Glen Osmond is the

2. *Wheal Watkins Lead Mine,*

The property of Mr. Watkins, of Worthing. This is likewise a very rich and promising mine; a large quantity of compact carbonate of lead has been raised here. In many places the metallic vein consists entirely of this mineral for a considerable depth, varying with steel-grained galena; it is occasionally of a green colour, from the presence of carbonate of copper, and is sometimes associated with small particles of minium, yellow oxide, &c. This ore is generally of a dirty white or slate colour, and is of a very rich quality. The matrix is, throughout these hills, clay slate, and is extensively impregnated with the foliated manganese, many of the specimens being remarkable for their beauty. Quantity of ore raised about 250 tons, of same quality and produce as the Glen Osmond ores.

Half a mile further on is the

3. *Wheal Gawler Lead Mine,*

Belonging to several gentlemen in Adelaide. This was, I believe, the first discovered of all, (1841) but the times were then so bad, that no attempt was made to explore it beyond raising two or three tons; the works are now lately resumed. The ore is much the same as in the other lead mines.

Besides these, already in full work, there is lead on the property of Mr. Metcalfe, five miles from Adelaide, and on a section purchased by Mr. MacFarlane, one mile and a half at the back of Glen Osmond, with numerous indications in many other parts of the colony, which will all by degrees be brought into operation, as capital is brought to bear upon them.

The system adopted in working these several copper and lead mines is similar to what obtains in Cornwall and other English mining districts, namely tribute and tutwork; Cornish miners who happen to have emigrated to the other Australian colonies, were not slow in finding their way to South Australia, to resume those occupations most congenial to the pursuits they had been accustomed to in the mother country. These men have all made large profits: I may instance, in particular, two brothers of the names of Nicholls, (I believe from the parish of Gwennap in Cornwall) who obtained the

first set, for the space of twelve months, at Kapunda, and whose tribute for that period amounted to above £500; these men were a short time before working on wages of 10s. per week; they are both experienced underground men, and have continued to be as successful as ever in their "sets."

CHAPTER XII.

PROSPECTS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA BECOMING AN EXTENSIVE MINING COUNTRY.

It must be allowed by an impartial observer, on perusing the preceding chapter, (already in the first year of our operations, and unassisted by extraneous aid, showing such extraordinary results) that our prospects for the future are very cheering. This subject intimately affects a large and important interest of home industry, and cannot fail, in a short time, to draw powerful attention to it. Any new field of enterprise is generally looked upon for a long time with indifference and incredulity, so also may it perhaps be with the mining capabilities of South Australia; the very general want of information prevailing in England of everything relating to the different Australian colonies, will have no slight effect in increasing the first difficulties we have to contend with; foreign mining speculations, have also for so many years been held in such bad odour, that there is no slight prejudice to overcome.

But there are some arguments which are all-convincing; amongst these may be ranked as the principal, the Swansea Sales lists: when people see, (as see it they will) month after month large quantities of South Australian copper ore arrive, and sell at far higher prices than either Cuba or South

American ores, (which have hitherto been the richest in the world), then they will begin to think there may be something in it after all!* However, in considering all the disadvantages South Australia had to contend with in making a commencement in this most important branch of industry, it must be confessed, that considerable interest has already been excited amongst a good many intelligent capitalists in London,—and London is England. Several companies have already been organized, and this promising field for the investment of British capital, will doubtless soon, by its own intrinsic merits, command that attention it deserves. Those who have already embarked in mining operations in this colony, will assuredly have no cause to regret that they were amongst the first; and the time is particularly opportune, as the West India and South American mines have for some years past been gradually falling off in quality of produce; the rich South Australian ores, will therefore be much sought after by the Swansea smelters, to mix with those of lower produce.

It will be my endeavour, in the present chapter,

* A mining gentleman in Devonshire, with whom I conversed on this subject during my rambles amongst the English mines, said, "Pooh! pooh! my dear sir, all the ore you will ever send from South Australia will be but as a drop in a bucket of water!" Time will show; but I can inform him, that the quantity of ore which will arrive in Swansea even this year from South Australia will be a drop of no inconsiderable size.

to describe those several accessary circumstances which are of the utmost importance in successfully facilitating the development of our mineral riches; it is not alone necessary to show that we have rich mines, but to show how the ore can be brought to a market. In South America it is a well known fact that thousands of tons of ore are lying at the mouth of the mines, without the means of bringing them to the coast, except at a ruinous expense, the mining districts there being so mountainous that the only available transport is by mules.

In South Australia the whole mineral district, as already explored, between Cape Jervis in the south, and Mount Bryant in the north, a distance of 150 miles, is easily accessible in every direction; the hills are of moderate elevation, and present no insurmountable barriers to the passage of wheel carriages; the roads, passing either across extensive level plains, or winding round grassy hills and through fertile valleys, are naturally very good; the climate being dry, the roads are not liable to be rendered impassable for any length of time by the rains, as these are seldom of more than a few days' continuance at one period, with intervals of fine bright weather, which quickly dries and consolidates the surface again. The transport is carried on by means of drays drawn by six or eight bullocks, each dray having two tons of ore on it, with which they travel from fifteen to eighteen miles a day. In every direction along the road there is

abundance of natural pasture to feed the bullocks on when they arrive at the end of the day's stage. The supply of bullocks is very great in the colony, and can be increased to an unlimited extent from the neighbouring colonies of New South Wales and Port Phillip, should ours prove insufficient, (where they have for some time past been boiling them down for the sake of extracting the tallow, they not having sale for the increasing numbers of which their herds are composed); the cost of transport by this means is at present less than sixpence per ton per mile; at this price the ore is delivered alongside of the ships at the port that convey it to England.

The next point to consider is, the means we possess to transmit to England (our present only market) the ore in such quantities as will henceforward be raised in South Australia.

The great staple of all the Australian colonies—wool—is of immense assistance to us for this purpose; the quantity already sent to England is very great, and annually increasing. The last circular of the woolbrokers gives an amount little short of 80,000 bales. Wool is a light and bulky article, requiring a considerable quantity of dead weight to ballast the ships with prior to taking it in; it is therefore obvious that these ships will find it answer their purpose much better to take the dead weight they require from our ore, at a moderate freight, instead of having to *pay* from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per ton for

sand ballast; the wool ships require rather better than a third part of their registry tonnage as ballast, which, taking the number of ships that annually load at Port Phillip, Sydney, Hobarton, Launceston, and Adelaide, at, say 100, and each ship at an average of 300 tons burthen, would enable us, after making every allowance for other heavy articles, such as oil, wheat, tallow, &c., (for which purpose I have considerably underrated the number of ships and their average tonnage) to send to England 10,000 tons, without encroaching on the room required for wool. The wool ships have often to wait in the ports above enumerated for two, three, or more months, whilst their cargo of wool is accumulating; now that all port charges are taken off the shipping who resort to Port Adelaide, by the wise and enlightened measure of our late Governor, these ships will surely find it worth their while to go to South Australia for their dead weight, in those intervals; besides which they would carry many passengers backwards and forwards, and light measurement goods, which would pay them well. In addition to this means, which is well worthy of the early attention of the English ship-owners trading to the Australian colonies, there are a vast number of colonial vessels, which will find constant freight by carrying the ore from Adelaide to the neighbouring ports to be transhipped on board of English ships. Hitherto we have not paid more than 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton for the ore shipped direct from Adelaide to

England. The following scale of freights, however, is what will probably beobtained in future :—

From Adelaide to ports in England direct, quantity sufficient to ballast the ship—£1 per ton; above that quantity from 10*s* to £1 per ton additional, according to the number of tons taken.

From Adelaide to either Sydney, Melbourne, Hobarton, or Launceston, for transhipment by colonial traders, 10*s* per ton, and from those ports 10*s* to £1 extra, as ballast, in wool ships, &c., as above.

The navigation to Adelaide is free from all dangers, and underwriters would easily be induced to include the intermediate trip to Adelaide in their policies; we have ourselves latterly adopted a running policy of insurance on our ores (at a trifling advance of the rates), embracing not alone the route to England direct, but all intermediate ports east of the Cape of Good Hope. There is another point I beg to draw the attention of English shipowners to, namely, the great difference between the passage home, round Cape Horn, as compared to the route adopted by ships from South Australia, round Cape Leeuwin and Cape of Good Hope; the latter is nearly the whole way a fine weather passage, where their ships would not be liable to be so strained as the copper ships from Chili are that round the Horn.

We need, therefore, not entertain any apprehen-

sion that there will not be plenty of shipping found to bring home our ore.

The amount of labour which will be available to us in the colony, next claims our attention; our prospects in this respect are no less satisfactory; though we can hardly hope, for some years to come, to have a supply commensurate with the demand which will take place; there is no fear of overstocking the labour market in Adelaide now, not only will our mines give employment to a vast number of men, but the very increase which this will cause to our population will require an additional number of people to grow food for; we are, therefore, in the enviable position, that the increasing supply of our mining population will not only of itself increase the wealth of the country, "but, by their consumption," as Mr. C. Foster says in his work, alluding to the mining industry of Ireland, "increase the available market for the produce of the industry of others."

The fame of the South Australian mines being spread through the neighbouring settlements, and when once it became known that every one who went there, found immediate and profitable employment, we began shortly to receive a large accession to our population, by voluntary free immigration from New Zealand, New South Wales, Port Phillip, and Van Diemen's Land. The tables of immigration, given at page 134, shew the increase, in 1844, to be 973; for the first quarter of 1845 the number amounted

to 617, and I have since learnt that in the month of August, last year, upwards of 500 people had arrived at Adelaide! This immigration is of course at no cost to the colony. The large sums that are accruing from the sale of mineral lands in the colony, make a plentiful fund, available for the sending out of free emigrants from the mother country; from Germany, too, an extensive emigration has set in to our colony, to which the success which has attended the first German emigrants has not a little contributed. I have, in a former chapter, taken occasion to speak in very favourable terms of them, and it would be well if the British Government could give them more facilities to emigrate to South Australia

The subject, however, which is of more importance to the South Australian mining interest than any other, is the reduction of the ore into a smaller bulk —by calcination, to economise the freight; and eventually, when sufficient capital shall be available, the production, through the means of smelting establishments, of copper in pure metal, to supply the India market with. If we can once succeed in producing a regulus of between 40 and 50 per cent., we may then look to the future with perfect confidence. The ore, in its rough state, containing 25 per cent. of metal, and from that upwards, can afford to pay a freight which will, at the same time, remunerate the ships that carry it to England; but the large heaps of ore, of a less produce, accumulating at the different mines, either from inferior veins, or from

"dressing" the richer ores, must sooner or later be turned to some account to make these mining operations as fully remunerative as they give us a right to expect they should. The existence of coal has several times been reported, but has not yet been verified; but we have no reason to lose courage, when we consider the unbounded extent of our forests, containing, as they do, a description of wood which will produce a large proportion of charcoal; the wood itself, when billeted and dried, burns with intense heat and steady blaze, owing to the quantity of resinous matter it contains; smelting with wood and charcoal produces the finest metal, and there is no reason why we should not be able to effect, by means of our virgin and now unprofitable forests, that which for centuries has been successfully adopted in Germany, Russia, and other countries where there exists no coal in the mining districts. A number of German smelters and charcoal burners from Clausthal, in the Hartz, will this spring proceed to the colony; where they will, I trust, speedily be followed by numerous other parties, and form the nucleus of a smelting industry, similar to that of the place they are leaving. I mention these facts, to prove, that, although the subject is one which requires much caution and prudence to enter upon, we at the same time will leave no means unemployed to place South Australia on a footing to derive every possible good result from those means which nature

has so bountifully bestowed upon our Province. There is an old German maxim which says—

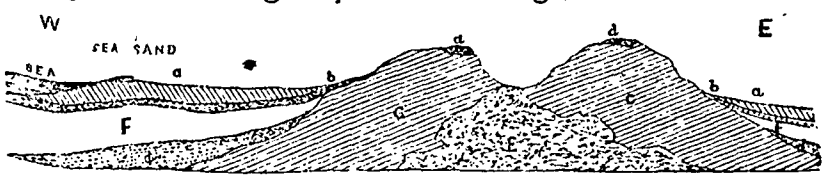
"Help yourselves, and God will help you likewise."

The energy, which the colonists of South Australia have displayed during the whole period of their past trying difficulties, will, so far from slumbering now, only acquire additional stimulus from the present encouraging prospects.

The lead ore is so easily run into pigs, that as regards this branch, the success of smelting in the colony cannot for a moment be questioned. Copper is a more difficult article to deal with; the ores raised in South Australia are very generally free from sulphur, as compared with English and other ores; this circumstance, and the readiness with which it is fused, is one reason why it is so highly prized in the Swansea smelting establishments. The real difficulties we have to contend with in South Australia are the comparative dearness of labour, and the want of experienced people to conduct these operations; for although it would be easy to make the ore melt, it is not so easy to prevent a great loss of metal, by the imperfect separation of the slag from it: it is a well-known fact that in Chili, where regulus is sometimes produced at the mines, the *slag* often contains, from the slovenly way of their operations, a large per centage of copper, which is thus lost. Our difficulties are anything but insuperable, but the prudence which has characterized all the mining operations in South Australia hitherto, will cause

the smelting of the ore to be begun, with equal caution, and continued by a gradual but sure development.

The discovery of such seams of coal as are found in the Newcastle Basin, on the Hunter's River, in New South Wales, would, of course, be of far more use to us than even the forests we possess. Several times have reports been current that coal had been discovered; if it really is the case, the discoverers are obviously keeping the locality secret, with a view to purchasing the ground at a fitting time. The question naturally arises, in a geological point of view, "does the formation of the country lead us to expect that coal strata exist in South Australia?" In elucidation of this interesting subject, Mr. Fortnum has kindly favoured me with the views his experience of this colony suggested, and illustrated it by the following section of the ranges:—



EXPLANATION.

a. Very recent formation, as, calcareous sand, clay, &c., containing shells of species at present living in the sea.

b. Very recent limestone, of oolitic structure generally.

c. The great mass of primitive rocks, as clay slate, micaschist, in many places carrying up the old red sandstone, *d.*

d. Old red sandstone.

E. Granite.

F. Probable position of the carboniferous deposits.

He says,

In the annexed sketch I have endeavoured to give a general idea of the positions of the strata, in reference to the probable existence of coal beds in the neighbourhood of Adelaide, or South Australia generally. It is to be borne in mind, that this sketch is only a theoretical one, and is supposed to be a section through the mountain chain, east and west. This mountain chain, which may be considered the back-bone of the country, extends north and south for a distance of 150 miles, during which its features of course vary considerably, but generally speaking, the clay slate, mica schists, gneiss, &c., are the most abundantly met with: the peaks are sometimes granite, at others, clay slate; in many instances, as shewn in the sketch, they are capped with the old red sandstone (*d*). It will be seen that the plains are of recent origin, consisting of alluvium, clay, calcareous sand, with abundance of shells of recent species; soft limestone, limestone of oolitic structure, granite, &c. &c.; and on ascending the hills, the recent limestone (*b*) extends some distance up their sides, immediately covering the clay and mica slates; on arriving at the top, we frequently meet, as before stated, with insulated masses of the old red sandstone (*d*); it necessarily follows, that the great mass of this formation, from which these insulated blocks were separated by the upheaving of the older strata, must exist beneath the surface of the plain, and it is a question of the greatest importance to ascertain what strata intervene between the recent limestone (*b*) and this sandstone; for in that space should we look for the important deposits of the carboniferous series.

It is evident that the most probable localities for the discovery of the coal formation, will be at those points immediately at the base of the hills, where the recent deposits forming the plains are necessarily of less thickness; and more particularly in such spots as may be exposed by the water-courses or other similar means.

To ascertain to what depth the recent formations extend

in such situations is of very great importance, but it is at the same time by no means a matter of certainty that the carboniferous series exist at all, for it is possible that the recent strata may rest directly upon the old red sandstone. In some parts of the colony, as in the neighbourhood of the Hutt River, &c., the magnesian limestone occurs, and this is the rock which, in the series, immediately covers the coal formation. In other parts, sandstones occur, differing from the old red sandstone in structure, being generally of lighter colour, and less indurated, and agreeing in character with the sandstones of the saliferous group. Unfortunately, sufficient attention has not yet been paid to the fossil shells that may occur in these rocks, by reference to which a more accurate idea could be formed of their proximity to the coal series. As the main range of hills is chiefly of old formation, it would be useless to search among them for coal, but at their bases, and in those deep gullies and ravines that are found in many parts of the country in water-courses, which by their depth expose the various strata, search should be made; but the adventurer must recollect, that although he may actually discover the coal, it by no means follows that it will be, even on sinking deep into the earth, in sufficient quantity to be worth working: it is much to be wished that the Government would institute inquiries into this important question, that boring rods should be used, under the direction of an experienced person, on such places as may be deemed most likely, (from the occurrence of those rocks that are generally found near the carboniferous series) to yield this most important mineral. The use of the boring rods by the surveyors of the Government establishment, directed in their operations by Mr. Burr, might lead to most important results, as, from the geological knowledge of that gentleman, they would search only in such places as would be likely to lead to success.

It is not too much to expect that the necessary explorations should be conducted by the Government themselves; and I may be allowed to express

a hope that this important subject may meet with some attention on their part.

The extensive coal fields north of Sydney, will probably, some time or other, be made available for the above purposes; the Australian Agricultural Company, in whose hands is the monopoly of the coal mines, ought to be the first on that very account to turn their attention to this subject; a chartered company like theirs, with large capital, and special privileges, would consult the interest of all the shareholders, by opening this new source of demand for their coal: the port of Newcastle on the Hunter's River, is quite as convenient for the erection of smelting establishments, as Swansea is; South Australia would not be long in sending the copper to be smelted, once the furnaces were erected; the coal exists there to an unlimited extent, and the present demand does not take off their hands a tithe of the quantity they could raise from the three pits, over which powerful engines are already erected. The price at the pit's mouth, when I was there last, was 8*s* per ton. and is now I believe 6*s* 6*d*.

The great abundance and cheapness * of animal and vegetable food of every description in South Australia, will support an immense and concentrated population. It is a strange anomaly, that one part of the world possesses food and wants population, and another part, possesses population and wants

* In the Appendix will be found the market prices of provisions, &c.

food. It is scarcely credible that, in spite of the march of civilization, whilst there is, like South Australia, (and in fact all the Australian provinces) a country, which will supply the bodily wants and comforts of human beings, to an unlimited extent, there exists within the sphere of the British Isles, a population of whom an eye-witness, no less an authority than the Times' Commissioner, says: "It is shocking to see the dreadful privations—the destitution—the mode of living." Right sorry am I, (who am but one individual out of thousands who will think in like manner) that he has arrayed himself foremost in the ranks of those who oppose emigration as a relief to these poor people,—because Ireland has the elements within itself of giving employment and comfort to its population; but in spite of which year after year passes away without bringing any alteration or relief to the "indescribable" poverty of the people. Because emigration is not thought to be a radical remedy for the whole evil, may it not be adopted by Government to relieve even a few of the very poorest? It is said emigration takes off the best of the population, meaning, those with small capital: I say, if we cannot have people with "small capital," give us those whose poverty is, as you tell us, "indescribable;" let them be but healthy, able, willing to work, and of good character, we will give them plenty of work, plenty of food,* and wages, which will

* The usual scale of rations given to each adult is 10lbs. of flour, 10lbs. of fresh meat, ¼lb. of tea, and 2lbs. of sugar per

support them and their families in affluence and independence, and make them bless those who have been the means of bringing about such a change in their earthly lot

Now as regards the influence the large quantity of copper which will in some years be imported into England may have on the market, it need not be regarded by the least anxiety, by those who might fear that the price can be materially affected by it. Copper is a metal of such general utility and applied to so numerous purposes, that the greater the supply the more extensively will it come into use; the development of the South Australian mines will not be regarded with a jealous eye by the Cornish mining interest,* as it does not in the least interfere with their prospects, the produce of both countries being essentially necessary the one to the other, for admixture by the smelter. Indeed, of such importance to the latter is the abundant supply of the rich carbonates and sulphurets, such as are produced from our mines, that in the latter end of March this year, a deputation from the copper manufacturers memorialised Sir Robert Peel to repeal the duty on foreign copper ores, with a view

week, in addition to the wages, which latter of course vary, according to the work performed, but are in no case under £18. per annum for an adult.

* The reader is referred to some very interesting statistics regarding the English and foreign mines and copper trade, compiled by and extracted from the Mining Journal, which are inserted in the Appendix.

of increasing the importation from South America. Sir Robert Peel did not accede to their representations; and it is to be hoped, that if any restrictions are taken off, they will be, not from South American or other foreign ores, but from the mineral produce of British colonies, and that the distinction which by the imposition of duties have so long placed the Australian colonies more in the light of a foreign state than a dependency of the British Crown, may at once cease, and thus help to encourage, as the British Government is bound to do by every tie of kindred, nationality, and justice to its distant subjects, their industry and exertions.

The memorial presented to Parliament by the copper manufacturers, states, "that it is an increasing trade," "that it is of the utmost importance that a supply of copper be obtained at the cheapest rate"—"that therefore raw ores should be introduced duty free, &c." This is all very true; but forming, as our province does, a portion of this empire, it behoves the Government, to recollect the claims of their own subjects, before those of foreign States. Give us every encouragement to send to England the rich ores from South Australia; take off the duty from ores raised in your own colonies; give us every possible facility, by encouraging the emigration of those who, by their labour, will put the ore we have in abundance, on board of the ships which will bring it to Swansea, and a very short time will shew, that the British copper manu-

facturers need not fear any diminution of the supply of the raw material. The necessity for smelting in the colony and seeking a market in India for the metal, will chiefly be forced upon us by the invidious duties levied on colonial produce, and other difficulties we may at such a distance have to contend with.

I have, in a preceding chapter (page 115), alluded to the projected railroad to connect Adelaide with the shipping. This project is intimately connected with our mining operations, for it would make available for the transport of ores from the distant mines, all those bullocks and drays which are now employed on the road, (a very considerable number) bringing cargo from and to the shipping and town. This project is, in every particular, not only highly desirable, but very feasible, and, as far as profits are concerned, very promising. The gentlemen who have given it support in England, have, however, very properly determined to let all the details of the plan emanate from the colonists themselves; for which purpose Mr. J. B. Montefiore, (who, with his whole family, proceeds to South Australia, in a few days, for the purpose of settling in that flourishing colony), takes out all necessary powers to make the preliminary arrangements for the formation of the company.

Owing to the want of sufficient accommodation at the present site of Port Adelaide, and the shallowness of the water, close to the wharfs, it will be a subject for consideration whether it would not be

better at once to direct the line of railway to the "North Arm," opposite Torrens Island, as was originally intended by Colonel Gawler. The money necessary to enlarge the existing road through the swamp, to give room for a railroad, and the many and expensive alterations which will soon be required at the wharfs at present in use, would go far to make available this new site for the port (*vide Map*), and I see by late Adelaide papers, that the idea has there also been taken up again. Colonel Gawler approves of and supports the scheme, and his numerous friends in the colony will be glad to perceive, that, though separated from them, he still takes a lively interest in everything which appears conducive to their interests.

The claims of South Australia to take up a very important station amongst the great mining countries of the world, may therefore, in conclusion, be summed up as follows:—

An already explored extent of country, abounding in metalliferous deposits, of 150 miles in length, by upwards of 30 miles in breadth. The absolute fee-simple of the soil, vested in the purchaser.

Unsurpassed richness of the ores found, whether copper, lead, or iron.

Unparalleled abundance of the ores, in those mines, already at work, cropping out at the surface of the ground.

Easy access to all parts of the colony, and unlimited supply of transport for bringing the ore to the port.

A constantly increasing supply of labour. Facilities for sending the ores to England at a moderate freight.

Abundance of animal and vegetable food produced in the colony to support a large population, such as an extensive mining country will concentrate in a small space—added to the most healthy climate.

Favourable prospects for being able to reduce the bulk of the ore by calcination and smelting, thereby saving cost of freight—and in the course of time supplying the India market with the metal.

A thoroughly well organized Government; a flourishing state of the colonial finance; the greatest security for life and property prevailing in the colony; a free, highly industrious, and well disposed population; and the British laws, administered ably and impartially.

Much further might I pursue this grateful theme, of enumerating the advantages of our colony; but the above will suffice to convince those who are not deaf to conviction, that a bright futurity is in store for South Australia; and that the fostering aid of British capitalists may be safely directed to this new and interesting field for enterprise, with confident hopes of its proving both safe and highly profitable.

CHAPTER XIII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE NATIVES.

PROUD as England may justly be, to see in all parts of the globe, even the most distant, her customs, language, religion, in a word the counterpart of herself spring up,—there is one subject, which cannot fail to be looked upon with sorrow and regret; that, whilst this great empire is constantly creating new nations as it were, after her own image; daily bringing into use, for the benefit of her own offspring, the untouched treasures of new hemispheres; and boasting, as England does, that her name carries with it into the wilderness, the blessings of christianity, religion, and civilization, transforming the desert into a smiling garden; still, this course of events has invariably been the means of gradually, but surely, causing the extinction of those aboriginal tribes inhabiting the countries invaded, thus apparently bringing about effects, the very contrary of what we profess to do, and most certainly of what is directly opposed to the fundamental philanthropic and humane principles engrafted on the British character.

The history of the colonization of the great American continent, does not belong to the present day; the nations, which once inhabited that vast

country, strong in the battle field, and not mean in the intellectual scale of humanity, are already numbered amongst the things that were; the few that remain, have resigned, long since, the name of a nation; the land, once theirs, now belongs to others.

In the vast continent of Australia, and its adjacent islands, nature also planted tribes of human beings, (I will not call them nations,) and in doing so, provided them with the means of obtaining partly from the soil, partly by the beasts and birds of the forests, and the fish of the rivers, a scanty, no doubt, but still a sufficient livelihood. Sixty years ago, the native roamed over the vast plains of this new world, master of that which the hand of nature placed there for his use; now, hundreds of miles are occupied by the white man, the native is seldom met with, and if his wanderings bring him within the sphere of our boasted civilization, he is looked upon as an unwelcome intruder, he is watched like a suspected criminal would be, and if driven by hunger, (that stern necessity which knows no restraint, but the impulse of the moment,) to appropriate a portion of our abundance to feed himself and his children, he is punished by our laws, and he also is made to feel that "his day is gone by."

In all parts of the world, the British character is respected; the British name is the terror of its enemies; from the fountains of British education has sprung genius, in the most exalted form, unmatched virtues, and talents without parallel;

wherever the children of that small island have gone, the effects of that vast influence extends with them; at a distance of many thousands of miles, we are happy, we possess every comfort, we are protected and secured in the possession of our homes, but incomprehensible as it may appear, those human beings, whose rights are paramount to ours, whose claims to the country we appropriate to our use, are superior to ours, (although we are too eager on all occasions, by casuistical reasonings, to persuade ourselves that such is not the case); the black inhabitant gradually dwindles away "before the blighting effects of civilization," and another half century will most probably also see the end of the Australian aboriginal race;* if not in the far interior, at all events within the settled districts.

* "It has already been stated, that in all the colonies we have hitherto established upon the continent, the aborigines are gradually decreasing in number, or have already disappeared in proportion to the time their country has been occupied by Europeans, or to the number of settlers who have been located upon it. Of the blighting and exterminating effects produced upon simple and untutored races, by the advance of civilization upon them, we have many and painful proofs. History records innumerable instances of nations who were once numerous and powerful, decaying and disappearing before this fatal and inexplicable influence; history will record, I fear, similar results, for the many nations who are now struggling, alas how vainly, against this desolating cause. . . . . We are almost, in spite of ourselves, forced to the conviction that the first appearance of the white man in any new country, sounds the funeral knell of the children of the soil."—*Eyre*, vol. ii. page 412.

In Van Diemen's Land, there once *were* natives, there is now not one left; in Australia, they have a greater extent of country to fall back upon, it is true; but the native has his predilections for the place he was born in, as well as we have; unwilling, because unaccustomed to labour for his subsistence, he now drags on a miserable and precarious existence within those settled districts, which he looks upon as his own; his means of procuring food are becoming daily more circumscribed; his usual haunts are occupied by others, nor does he find sympathy from his more fortunate sable brethren further in the interior; for should he encroach or settle upon their territory, he is quickly made to feel, that there also, is he looked upon as an intruder.

But let it not be supposed that the British Government has been either blind to their claims, or deaf to the reasonings of humanity in their behalf.*

* The following noble sentiments of Lord Stanley, on this subject, deserve to find a place in every work on the colonies. In his despatch to Sir George Gipps, of Dec. 20, 1842, his Lordship says, "I cannot conclude this despatch without expressing my sense of the importance of the subject of it, and my hope that your experience may enable you to suggest some general plan, by which we may acquit ourselves of the obligations which we owe towards this helpless race of beings. I should not, without extreme reluctance, admit that nothing could be done—that with respect to them alone, the doctrines of Christianity must be inoperative, and the advantages of civilization incommunicable. I cannot acquiesce in the theory that they are incapable of improvement,

Much has been tried for their benefit, and vast sums have been expended to improve their social condition, and all to no purpose. The wisdom which has for centuries directed, and watched over the destinies of the British Nation, which has been equal to meet, and cope with any emergency which the world could produce, has been as yet unable to devise the means of rescuing from the, I fear, too certain doom of an early and total extinction, a few thousand simple minded black people.

Their hard fate has repeatedly occupied the attention of our ablest statesmen, as the parliamentary annals can prove; their benevolent intentions have been seconded to the utmost of their power, by the representatives of the Government in the colonies; but nothing can be shewn to prove that the Australian savage is in the least better off now than he was twenty, or more, years ago. The large sum of nearly £80,000 has been expended, since 1821, in New South Wales, in keeping up a widely ramified establishment of Protectors; the Protectorate has cost during that period £51,807, and half the expense of the border police, £27,700 more. Had the money been annually dropped into the sea, outside

and that their extinction, before the advance of the white settler is a necessity which it is impossible to control. I recommend them to your protection, and favourable consideration, with the greatest earnestness, but at the same time, with perfect confidence, and I assure you that I shall be willing and anxious to co-operate with you in any arrangement for their civilization, which may hold out a fair prospect of success."

Sydney Heads, the loss could not be more regretted, than its resultless application in redeeming the savage, and it would have saved both Sir George Gipps and Lord Stanley the trouble of writing the immensity of despatches they did; the protectorate plan has, I believe, been now abandoned in despair, as being productive of no good; and although the experiments in South Australia have been made on a far more moderate scale, no better results can be shewn, with us, than in the neighbouring colonies;—but the effects of our civilizing influence is shewn, as Mr. Eyre says, "in their diminished numbers." Again, he says, "many attempts, upon a limited scale, have already been made in all the colonies, but none have in the least degree tended to check the gradual, but certain, extinction that is menacing this ill-fated people; nor is it in my recollection, that throughout the whole length and breadth of New Holland, *a single real and permanent convert to Christianity has yet been made amongst them.*"

It is next to impossible to make any estimate as to the actual numbers of the different tribes who are located in South Australia; their wandering and unsettled habits do not allow of any correct census being taken. Mr. Protector Moorhouse estimates their number at about 3000. Mr. Eyre thinks there may be twice as many. The funds which the colonial government apply to their use is by an annual vote placed on the estimates; and in a former chapter I have taken occasion to remark on the continued

and futile efforts which are made to educate a few children, whilst the bulk of the natives are left to drag on a miserable existence, subsisting partly on charity, partly on the precarious and uncertain means of obtaining food still at their command. Mr. Braim says, very justly, in alluding to the expense incurred in New South Wales, "that no one would regret its extent, could any corresponding good be shewn to have been effected by it." The sum voted for 1845 was £820., which is appropriated, in salaries, to Protectors, schoolmasters, and schoolmistresses, and the Protector himself states that only *three children* have been in *regular* attendance. Their parents being accustomed to have the assistance of their children in their hunting, fishing, or other employments, cannot be made to comprehend in what way they will be benefited by being deprived of their services; on that account they never willingly consent to allow their children to absent themselves from them for more than a few days,* and it does certainly appear to be contrary to the general acceptation of the term common sense, and humanity generally, that as the result of the money spent, every now and then reports are issued by the superintendents of the native locations, stating that some

* "With all my past experience I cannot persuade myself, that any real or permanent good will ever be effected until the influence exercised over the young by the adults be destroyed, and they be freed from the contagious effects of their example."—*Eyre*, vol. ii. page 430.

half dozen *children* are able to read "polysyllables" or "monosyllables," that they are able to repeat the Lord's prayer and commandments, (parrots are taught to utter sentences as well) but of which I defy any one to prove that they understand a particle of their meaning; and within five minutes afterwards, in walking through the streets, you may possibly meet tribes of *adults* in the very acmé of squalidness and filth, clothed in rags, picking up, as food, offal,* from which a dog would turn away in disgust. This may appear overdrawn, but let any impartial observer give testimony whether the most disgusting and revolting sights are not constantly occurring under our eyes in the centre of the town. For this reason, I repeat what I said before, unless the civilization and education of the natives, both adult and child, can be carried on, on a sufficiently extended scale, to include both parent and child within its sphere, it is a flat contradiction to the boasted philanthropy which the English are ready on all occasions to put forward, to spend large sums in useless attempts to teach a half-dozen children to spell, or scratch unintelligible hieroglyphics on slates, whilst hundreds of wretched outcasts are wandering through the country unheeded, uncared for, without food, clothing, or home, who might be both fed and clothed with the money.

I do not mean to say, that the aborigines are

* "Many are supported by the offal of a place, where so much animal food is consumed."—*Eyre*, vol. ii. page 445.

beyond all redemption, incapable of being civilized; quite the contrary. I think, with many others, that they are capable of improvement, and the valuable writings of Captain Grey,* and more lately Mr. Eyre, on this subject, would convince me, had not examples of great intelligence fallen under my own observation. But it is not that, what we have to do with, in the present limited means at the command of the authorities for carrying out their views; in my humble opinion, the first steps in their civilization ought to be to teach them to work, and to *feed them;* teach the native to look up to you for a certain and regular subsistence in the first instance; deprive him of the inducement he now has of continually wandering from one place to another in search of that food; break him by that means, first, of his roving disposition, and he may become tractable and settled in his habits; begin the work of civilization by teaching him the use of the spade, instead of the pen or pencil, or before you vainly strive to christianize him, by those things, of which his simplicity cannot possibly understand one iota—and there may be some hopes for them after all.

But I fear it will continue to be a hopeless case altogether, until the powerful hand of the British

* In speaking of Capt. Grey's work, and the shortness of the time during which he collected the materials, Mr. Eyre says: "it is perfectly surprising that the amount of information amassed should be so great, and so generally correct."—*Eyre*, vol. ii. page 152.

Government interfere: unless something emanates from head-quarters itself, the native will continue to wander about, as is his wont at present; his "gin" will ply the "yamstick," and dig from the soil the same miserable subsistence as heretofore, whilst her lazy husband, will "lie basking in the sun, or crouching over his fire." The British law looks upon the native, as a British subject; consequently, his liberty must be respected; he must on no account be placed under the least personal restraint, or be persuaded to work for his livelihood, with the sweat on his brow, as the white man does, and in consequence of his glorious privilege of being a British subject, a few years more will infallibly see the extinction of his race. The whole subject is so extensively entered upon, by Mr. Eyre, in his lately published work, that it is impossible to add any new features to the sad theme. In Mr. Eyre's work is embodied the experience of several years close application to the study of the relations between the European and native; it forms altogether the most complete history of the aboriginal race which has ever been published, and those who would wish to become intimately acquainted with their customs, manners, traditions, &c., would do well to peruse it.

With such an elaborate work already before the public, it would not be becoming in me to offer the few particulars descriptive of the aborigines, which my personal observation in South Australia might



Drawn by C. Hamilton

Distribution of Flour at Moorsunda

London Published by C. & W. Brown

suggest; the plan Mr. Eyre proposes for improving the natives has many good points about it, but the greatest difficulty such an extended plan would have to contend with, is the great expense it would entail on the Colony, which, saddled as it is with the liquidation of the debts of former mismanagement, is certainly not in a position to furnish funds for the purpose. The more reason, therefore, that the Home Government should not cease to direct their attention, and extend a helping hand to this subject.

The establishment of the Government Post at Moorunde, on the Murray River, 85 miles from Adelaide, at which place Mr. Edward John Eyre was stationed as Resident Magistrate, was determined upon by Governor Grey in the latter part of 1841, in consequence of the numerous outrages which had taken place by the natives, upon parties coming overland from New South Wales, with stock; many Europeans had been from time to time killed, and their property destroyed or plundered, whilst, on the other hand, whenever the parties of whites happened to be in sufficient force, a great slaughter was sure to be committed upon the blacks. The Governor, therefore, had apparently sufficient grounds for going to the expense of that establishment, even at a time when the colonial finances were at the lowest possible ebb: and Mr. Eyre has certainly succeeded in an eminent degree in effecting the object contemplated, as the whole

length of the River Murray, from the great northern bend to the coast, is occupied at the present moment with sheep and cattle stations, and no single outrage of a fatal nature, has, since the establishment of that post, been committed by the natives; whilst at the same time a great moral control and influence has been obtained over the more distant and warlike tribes, who were either periodically visited in their own districts by Mr. Eyre, or used to come down to Moorunde to receive the meagre distribution of flour and blankets now and then allowed them by the Government.

Some Members of Council at Adelaide, do not however appear to concur in this view of the case; and every year witnesses a fresh motion on their part, to withdraw the establishment, as useless. During the session of June, 1845, the same motion was again made, and His Excellency the Governor appears to have been under the impression that Mr Eyre himself had considered the station might be abandoned.

This being a misapprehension on the part of His Excellency, Mr. Eyre addressed a letter to the Colonial Secretary at Adelaide on the subject, which will be found in the appendix.

If any additional proof were wanting that beneficial results have been effected, by the influence exercised by Mr. Eyre over the still powerful tribes on the upper part of the Murray, the Rufus, Darling, &c.; it is shewn by the friendly feeling

evinced to Captain Sturt's party in passing safely through those same tribes, who only a few years ago were arrayed in deadly warfare against the white man, whenever he ventured within the limits of their tribes.

Mr. Eyre brought two native boys with him to England, whom he has placed at school, where they are being educated; short as their stay has been in England, they have already made great progress in the English language, and their intellectual capacities are not a whit inferior to what an English boy of the same age would be, with the same length of time employed in developing them. Her Majesty was graciously pleased to command their being brought to Buckingham Palace, and expressed herself pleased with their appearance; Mr. Eyre had the honour of being present on the occasion.

CAPTAIN STURT'S EXPLORATION.

THE Australian colonies have furnished for many years, men of undaunted courage and hardihood, who have ventured into the unexplored wilderness, exposed to all the hardships, dangers, and difficulties, incident to travelling in so arid a country, as the interior of that vast continent consists of, at least so far as has been yet ascertained. Little do people in England know of the sufferings to which

the Australian explorer exposes himself; the published accounts of these undertakings do not often meet with that attention they deserve, owing to the generally uninteresting nature of the country traversed, and the most distinguished merit is thus but little appreciated, because hitherto so few great results of public utility, have been brought about by them; South Australia boasts with no little pride, of having, at one time, numbered amongst its inhabitants, no less than three individuals, Sturt, Grey, and Eyre, who each of them rank at the top of the list of those, who have threaded the thorny paths of the Australian desert; it is amidst such trying perils as they each have in their turn experienced, that that true moral courage shines forth, which is superior to the same feeling which in the din of battle leads the soldier to rush to the conflict, and look destruction in the face; *hunger* and *thirst* are more fearful opponents to encounter, than the roar of cannon.

Pre-eminent amongst all explorers ranks he, who even at this moment is again in the field; who has once more, left the bosom of his family, and the circle of his unnumbered friends, who is even now, devoting the renewed ardour of his youth, combined with the experience of maturer years, and risking his life for the solution of that geographical problem, which has hitherto baffled the utmost exertions of all who have tried to unravel its mysteries. The

gallant Captain Sturt, the revered "father of Australian exploration," is once more striving to lift the veil, which has, till this moment, confined the habitations of the white man to a narrow strip of ground on the coast line of that vast continent. Captain Sturt was the person who laid open the South Australian district, which now constitutes the happy home of thousands of his fellow creatures; it was by his indomitable perseverance and courage, and that of his little band, that he ventured into the "heart of the desert," "an enterprise," of which Colonel Napier so beautifully remarks, "unanimated by the glory of battle, yet accompanied by the hardships of a campaign, without splendour, without reward;" it was through the means of his correct judgment, that further examinations of the country were undertaken, which was speedily followed by an extensive settlement. But I trust, that history will not hereafter record that such services, were left without "reward;" the love and esteem of a whole population, must be acceptable and gratifying to his feelings as a man; but let not this be his only reward. Her Majesty's government will doubtless not forget him, when he shall have returned in safety, to spend the remainder of his life, amongst his admiring friends; and let the colonists themselves, or rather the Legislative Council in their name, set the noble example, by awarding him in addition, an annual grant on the revenues of the

colony, he was mainly instrumental in giving rise to, which I feel convinced will meet the hearty approval of the whole population.

Captain Sturt has long entertained the theory, founded on certain considerations connected with the physical formation of the continent, and appearances on its surface, coupled with observations made by him, on his former explorations, and the reports of natives, that a high range of mountains exists in the far interior; and further, that an immense inland sea is also there situated. Having memorialized the Home Government on the subject, Lord Stanley, with praiseworthy liberality, and actuated by the importance of ascertaining, if possible, what the interior of Australia is composed of, felt himself justified in applying a considerable sum of money to its accomplishment; for which he subsequently obtained the sanction of a vote from Parliament. All details of the expedition, and the selection of the party who were to accompany him, were left to Captain Sturt himself: and nothing was omitted which would be likely to bring it to a successful issue. It may give some idea of the estimation in which Captain Sturt is held, and the confidence placed in him as a leader, when I say, that he had several hundred applications from parties, who volunteered to go with him; and I feel convinced, that through the length and breadth of the colony, there was not one individual who would not have felt

honoured in being selected to make one of the party, and have readily, and with alacrity, followed him. Indeed, one of the greatest difficulties Captain Sturt had to contend with to make a final start, was the number of persons who constantly beset his path, from morning to night, all eager to share the dangers and glory of this great enterprise. By the beginning of August, 1844, all the "*matériel*" was in readiness, and the party organized; the latter was constituted as follows:—

Chief of the expedition—Captain C. Sturt.
Assistant—J. Poole, Esq.
Draftsman—Mr. J. M. Stuart.
Medical Officer—John Browne, Esq.
Armourer, and collector of natural history, &c.—Mr. D. G. Brock.
Storekeeper—Mr. Louis Piesse.
Attendants—Daniel Morgan, Richard Turpin, Hugh Foulkes, Joseph Cowley, George Davenport, Robert Flood, John Kirby, John Sullivan, John Lewis, John Mack, John Jones.
5 bullock drays, of eight bullocks each.
1 three-horse dray.
1 three-horse spring cart.
A boat.
200 sheep, and ample supply of provisions, implements, &c. for twelve months.

On the 10th of August a total suspension of all business took place in Adelaide; a farewell breakfast was given to Captain Sturt and his companions, which was attended by his Excellency the Governor,

and between two and three hundred of the leading colonists. Major O'Halloran occupied the chair; and, after the usual loyal toasts, and the health of his Excellency, who, in returning thanks, bestowed upon Captain Sturt the appropriate appellation of the "Father of Australian Exploration," which will ever after be his title, the Chairman proposed the following:—

"Health and all happiness to our honoured guest—may the sun of prosperity shine on his path through the desert, and crown his exertions with the most brilliant success, so that the results shall be alike glorious to our country and to our guest,—beneficial to the interests of South Australia and her neighbours—and a source of enthusiastic rejoicing to the countless friends and admirers of the gallant Sturt."

Which of course elicited most universal and long continued applause. Captain Sturt made a very feeling speech in return, and more than one sturdy settler, who had long since given up the whimpering mood, found to his astonishment an unaccountable dimness come over his eyes; the scene was rendered doubly interesting, by the presence of Captain Sturt's youthful son, Evelyn, at his side, to whom in the course of his address he pointed, saying he had brought him, that the recollection of the scene might remain with him in after years, and stimulate him through life.

Captain Sturt was escorted for some miles from town by an immense cavalcade, the drays, &c. having preceded him some days; at Gawler Town,

twenty-five miles from Adelaide, another party of friends, myself among the rest, were awaiting him, and accompanied him during his next day's stage to Koonunga, where we finally bid him good-bye.

The last accounts received from Captain Sturt, were dated 5th June, 1845: he was then encamped on the confines of the colony, in lat. 28° 11′ 15″, long. 141° 22′, and the whole party had already undergone great sufferings, most of them having been attacked by scurvy, and the heat having at times been as high as 135 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, whilst the direct rays of the sun caused it to rise to 157 degrees. The second in command, my poor friend Poole, had succumbed to the fatigues, and, after a lengthened period of illness, expired, the day after he left the expedition with part of the men, on their return to Adelaide; Captain Sturt having thought it advisable to reduce their numbers, to economise the provisions, in order to make a final push for the interior, from the point he had then reached.

The reader will already be familiar with Captain Sturt's despatches, as they have appeared in almost every English paper; I do not deem it desirable to republish them now, not to forestall any part of Captain Sturt's own work, which, on his return, will doubtless be published. I cannot conclude this brief notice better, than by quoting the words of his brother explorer, Mr. Eyre:—

"May he be successful to the utmost of his wishes, and may he again rejoin, in health and safety, his numerous friends, to forget in their approbation and admiration, the toils he has encountered, and to enjoy the rewards and laurels which will have been so hardly earned, and so well deserved."

RETURN OF EXPORTS, THE PRODUCE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, FOR THE YEARS 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843 AND 1844.

Article.	1838	1839	1840	1841		1842		1843		1844	
	Value.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£. s. d.		£ s. d.		£. s. d.
Barilla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28tons14cwt.	108 10 0	5 tons	20 0 0
Bacon and Hams	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62 cwt.	166 4 0
Bark	—	—	—	9 tons	28 0 0	24 tons.	170 0 0	120 tons	442 0 0	856 tons	3,310 0 0
Beef	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4500 lbs.	43 0 0	2 cwt.	2 18 0
Bones	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45 0 0	6 cwt.	1 0 0
Bread and Biscuit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16 cwt.	10 0 0
Butter	—	—	—	—	—	48,876 lbs.	2,377 13 0	37,841 lbs.	1.670 11 0	410 cwt.	1,137 2 0
Cattle, cows & calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	100 0 0
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	12 10 0
Cheese	—	—	—	—	—	23,360 lbs.	899 9 0	12,586 lbs.	412 5 0	74 cwt.	08 0 0
Corn—Barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1152 bushels	247 12 0	65½ qrs.	83 3 0
Bran	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23,100 lbs.	67 10 0	348 qrs.	116 3 6
Oats	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	731 bushels	162 0 0	30 qrs.	48 0 0
Wheat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 628bushels	2,351 9 0	11,294½qrs.	12,014 16 6
" Flour	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,250,900 lbs.	7.680 10 0	16,978 cwt.	8,014 9 0
Eggs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		9 2 6
Galls	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53 cwt.	67 6 0
Gum	—	—	—	—	30 0 0	—	—	542 cwt.	486 0 0	2,302 cwt.	2,500 15 0
Hay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25 tons.	74 0 0
Hides and Skins	—	—	—	—	92 0 0	—	489 2 0	—	106 5 0		161 3 0
Horns	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		17 2 0
Leather	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35 cwt.	264 0 0
Lard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 cwt.	5 5 0
Machinery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		63 10 0
Oil—Black	3,450 0 0	8,500 0 0	5,500 0 0	138 tuns	2,780 0 0	43½ tuns	863 0 0	23 tuns 95gal.	4,669 0 0	127½ tuns	3,375 10 0
Sperm	—	—	—	—	70 0 0	25 tuns	2,030 0 0	—	—	4 tuns.	215 10 3
Ore—Copper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ton 3 cwt.	23 0 0	277 tons	4,009 10 0
Lead	—	—	—	—	390 0 0	—	—	18 tons 1cwt.	104 10 0	203 tons	2,427 0 0
Plants	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		2 0 0
Salt	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41 tons	137 0 0	130 tons	380 0 0
Slates	—	—	—	—	515 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specimens Nat. His.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		21 0 0
Tallow	—	—	—	—	—	2 tons	106 0 0	—	—	—	—
Timber	—	—	—	—	426 0 0	—	—	1 ton	20 0 0		29 18 0
Whalebone	820 0 0	315 0 0	1,410 0 0	8tons 9cwt.	745 0 0	1 ton	108 0 0	15 tons17cwt.	1,566 15 6	1213 cwt.	590 10 0
Wine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 galls.	1 4 0
Wool	770 0 0	350 0 0	8,740 0 0	641,825 lbs.	35,485 17 0	528,032lbs.	22,036 6 6	1,159,574 lbs.	45,568 9 8	819,897lbs.	42,769 15 0
Vegetables	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		249 10 0		40 0 0
Totals	5,040 0 0	9,165 0 0	15,650 0 0		40,561 17 0		29,079 10 6		66,160 17 2		82,268 13 8

NOTE—The shipment of wool occurs in the first and last quarters of each year, and the proportion shipped in each varies as the season is late or early. The clip of 1842 was late, and the bulk of it was shipped in the first quarter of 1843; the clip of 1843 being earlier, the greater portion of it was shipped in the last quarter of the same year. The clip of 1844 has been late, and the greater portion of it remained unshipped at the period of closing this account. The decrease of the shipment of wool in 1844, is thus reconciled with an increased production.

Custom-house, Port Adelaide, 5th February, 1845.

ROBERT R. TORRENS, Collector.

No. II.—*An Account of all Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, with their respective value, imported into the Colony of South Australia, in the year ending January 5, 1845.*

Articles Imported.	Totals. £.	s.	d.
Arms and ammunition—			
Firearms	55	0	0
Gunpowder	191	13	0
Agricultural implements	539	0	0
Apparel & slops	13,887	17	0
Alkali	262	0	7
Animals, living—			
Horses	654	0	0
Rams	372	0	0
Cows	2	0	0
Bacon and Hams	238	10	0
Beer, porter, &c	5410	14	8
Blacking	115	0	0
Books and Stationery	2177	0	11
Boots and shoes	1622	8	9
Boat	20	0	0
Brushes and combs	95	16	0
Butter	71	0	0
Bottling-wax	1	15	4
Bricks (Bath)	7	0	0
Billiard table	15	0	0
Bagatelle table	5	0	0
Blocks	62	2	4
Bottles	11	3	4
Blue	9	6	8
Baskets	0	5	0
Candles	485	17	10
Canvass and bagging	5337	2	9
Carriages and carts	220	15	0
Cocoa and chocolate	32	17	6
Coffee	641	5	3
Coals	56	0	0
Colours and paints	239	6	6
Cider	20	0	0
Confectionary	34	11	0
Copper	30	0	0
Cordage and rope	587	10	3
Cocoa-nuts	2	0	0
Corks	106	12	6
Corn—			
Barley	511	15	7
Beans	101	4	0
Flour	1	0	0
Oatmeal	17	3	8
Wheat	8	8	0
Malt	60	10	0
Bran	9	14	0
Maize	76	10	4
Oats	308	11	9
Cottons & linens	10,376	3	2

Articles Imported.	Totals. £.	s.	d.
Cheese	57	0	0
Clocks	58	0	0
Dairy implements	7	5	0
Drugs	29	10	0
Cement	2433	5	1
Drapery	15950	9	3
Earthenware	913	12	6
Fruit—			
Dried	1310	14	6
Fresh	313	8	8
Flax	10	0	0
Furs and skins	145	12	9
Furniture	1199	19	0
Fish	56	3	4
Glass	351	12	0
Glue	5	0	0
Grindery	93	6	0
Hair	42	0	0
Hardware & ironmongery	3800	10	9
Hats	1686	18	0
Hops	954	11	6
Hay	2	10	0
Haberdashery	1664	12	2
Iron	1611	15	2
Jewellery	510	0	0
Kegs (empty)	1	12	0
Lead	280	0	0
Leather	466	6	7
Lime juice	12	8	0
Lucifers	209	7	9
Mirrors	10	0	0
Mats	22	17	6
Machinery	1099	4	0
Musical instruments	170	0	0
Molasses	89	0	0
Nails	860	11	10
Netting	17	10	0
Oakum	6	12	0
Oil—Olive	6	10	0
Paint	112	9	6
Black	258	9	0
Sperm	142	10	0
Oilman's stores	1295	16	8
Pictures & Prints	106	0	0
Pitch, tar, and rosin	459	1	6
Potatoes	465	6	0
Pork and Beef	205	10	0
Provisions	82	0	0
Perfumery	50	9	6
Rice	87	8	0
Rattans	3	10	0

Articles Imported.	Totals. £.	s.	d.
Salt	721	15	0
Saddlery	282	6	4
Seeds	83	5	0
Shot	55	0	0
Soap	2268	2	9
Stones and Slates	98	3	4
Millstones	60	0	0
Grindstones	30	5	0
Succades	39	0	0
Spirits—			
Brandy	3236	10	0
Geneva	603	12	0
Gin	449	5	0
Rum	2019	15	0
Whiskey	534	15	0
Cordials	40	0	0
Eau de Cologne	80	4	0
Spices	229	13	7
Sago	3	2	0
Sugar	5282	8	0
Starch	41	0	0
Solder	5	0	0
Surgical instruments	20	0	0
Specie	2680	0	0
Specimens Nat. History	3	2	0
Tea	4436	11	2
Tin	356	6	10
Tools	140	0	0
Tallow	79	11	10
Tobacco—			
Stems	337	1	10
Manufactured	1809	12	0
Cigars	1159	4	0
Leaf	15	0	0
Snuff	32	14	0
Pipes	230	15	0
Tinware	35	10	0
Trees and plants	376	0	0
Turnery and toys	94	3	6
Turpentine, spirit of	130	11	9
Vinegar	87	3	0
Wine	3571	3	3
Whaling implements	54	0	0
Wood	629	3	2
Woollen manufactures	1589	19	3
Wool presses	10	0	0
Whalebone	36	0	0
Wool	8	0	0
Whitning	15	0	0
Miscellaneous	86	14	2
Totals	118,915	6	11

Custom House, Adelaide.

ROBERT TORRENS, Collector.

No. III.

Return relative to the disposal of the Crown Lands of South Australia, from 1835 *to* 1844, *inclusive.*

Date.	Quantity of Land Sold.	Average price per Acre.	Mode of Sale.	Total Amount of Purchase Money.		Proportion of Purchase Money received in each year.	Number of acres granted without sale.	Total quantity of wild land remaining ungranted.
				Received in England.	Received in South Australia.			
		£. s. d.		£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		
1835	58,995	0 12 0	325,464¾ acres sold at fixed prices, and 2,367 acres disposed of by public auction	35,397	0 0 0	35,397 0 0	3,433 acres reserved for the Aborigines, but not granted by conveyance.	About 199,336,347 acres.
1836	1,680	0 12 0		1,248	0 0 0	1,248 0 0		
	240	1 0 0						
1837	591	6 1 7½		3,120	3,594 9 0	6,714 9 0		
	3,120	1 0 0						
1838	48,040	1 0 0		37,960	10,080 0 0	48,040 0 0		
1839	170,841	1 0 0		48,336	122,505 0 0	170,841 0 0		
1840	15,565¾	1 0 0		7,040	8,525 15 0	15,565 15 0		
1841	1	0 12 0		320	7,331 2 0	7,651 2 0		
	7,650½	1 0 0						
1842	17,081½	1 0 0		80	17,001 10 0	17,081 10 0		
1843	598	1 0 6¼		—	613 13 9	613 13 9		
1844	3,428	1 13 0$\frac{23}{32}$		100	5,566 13 0	5,666 13 0		
Totals	327,831¼			133,601	175,218 2 9	308,819 2 9		

E. C. FROME, CAPTAIN R.E., Surveyor-General.

Surveyor General's Office, 31st January, 1845.

No. IV.

Return shewing the general Condition of South Australia at the close of the Years 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, *and* 1844, *in reference to the Amount of Population at those periods.*

Years.	Total number of Inhabitants of the Province.	Number of Inhabitants in the Municipality of Adelaide.	Number of Inhabitants in the Rural Districts.	Number of Public Houses in Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Albert Town.	Number of Public Houses in the country.	Number of convictions in the course of the year for Crimes and Misdemeanours.	Number of Flour Mills.	Number of Manufactories.	Number of Acres of Land in cultivation.	Value of Exports of Colonial Produce.			Amount of Government Expenditure for each year.			Amount of Revenue for each year.		
										£.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1840	14,610	8,489	6,121	70	37	47	0	4	2,503	15,650	0	0	169,966	19	5	30,199	14	11
1841	*	*	*	67	38	37	0	0	6,722	31,826	0	0	104,471	12	8	26,720	15	11
1842	*	*	*	44	37	36	0	0	19,790	29,079	10	6	54,444	7	3	22,074	4	6
1843	17,366	6,107	11,259	34	33	31	16	31	28,690	66,160	17	2	29,842	16	6	24,142	15	2
1844	†18,999	*	*	36	33	25	21	35	26,918¾	82,268	13	8	29,453	12	8	27,878	12	10

* There are no Official Records affording the required information on this point.

† This Return of Population is compiled from the Census Return for 1843, and the Registration and Immigration Returns for 1844.

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 31st January, 1845.

No. V.

NEW WASTE LAND REGULATIONS.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Adelaide, August 13, 1845.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the following regulations for the guidance of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, made in pursuance of the power vested in his Excellency by the provisions of the Act of Council, 6th Victoria, No. 8, intituled "An Act for protecting the Waste Lands of the Crown in South Australia from encroachment, intrusion, and trespass."

By his Excellency's command.

A. M. MUNDY,
Colonial Secretary,

COMMON LANDS.

1. All Waste Lands of the Crown, which may lie within three miles of the boundaries of any purchased lands, will in general be regarded as common lands; but in any case where such an extent of common land may appear to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, greater than is necessary for the number of cattle for which a right of pasturage thereon may be claimed in terms of these regulations, he will assign such reduced limits as may appear to him sufficient.

2. Every person who may occupy purchased land which is situated within one mile of any common land, will, upon taking out an occupation or depasturing license, be entitled to a right of pasturage on such common land, in the proportion of sixteen head of horned cattle or horses, or one hundred sheep, for every eighty acres of such purchased land. No person, however, will be entitled to depasture cattle on the common lands in virtue of purchased land situated more than three miles from the residence

or station on which the cattle are kept; nor will the right of commonage, in any case, extend beyond the same limits.

3. Whenever any common land may adjoin any Waste Land of the Crown which is in the occupation of any licensed person as a defined run, the boundaries of such run shall be regarded also as the boundaries of the adjoining common land, unless the Commissioner of Crown Lands shall make any order to the contrary.

4. No person will be permitted to have a station upon the common lands without the approval of the Commissioner.

5. Persons who claim a right of pasturage on the common lands, must lodge with the Commissioner a statement of the particulars of their claims in the form of a Schedule annexed to these regulations, marked A; and they must hand in an amended statement as often as any change may take place in their right of pasturage.

DEFINED RUNS.

6. The general principle upon which all claims to pasturage on any portion of the Waste Lands of the Crown, not being common lands, will be decided—is pre-occupancy.

7. Every person who claims right of pasturage on any portion of the Waste Lands of the Crown, not being common lands, must define such of the boundaries of his run as are not formed by water-courses, either by lines of marked trees, or by posts erected at convenient intervals, or by such other method as will render these boundaries easily discernible; and they must, in as far as practicable, be straight lines. He must lodge at the office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands a description of his run, in which must be specified the situation, boundaries, and estimated extent of the run, and the number and description of the cattle kept thereon, in the form of Schedule B, annexed to these regulations. Any number of stations may be included in one description of a run; but when the same person claims two or more runs which do not adjoin, a separate description must be given of each.

8. Until the occupant of a run shall have defined his boundaries in the manner pointed out by these regulations, and shall have lodged at the office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands the above mentioned description of his run, no complaint that he may wish to bring against any other person for any encroachment or trespass on the run will be entertained by the Commissioner.

9. The names of all persons who may have lodged descriptions of runs at the office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, in accordance with the terms of these regulations, will be published in the Government Gazette, unless the Commissioner may see reason to disapprove of any such description.

10. After the description of a run has been notified in the Government Gazette, no claim of any other person to such run will be entertained, unless the matter is brought before the Commissioner of Crown Lands within three months after such notification; and if two or more persons shall include the same portion of waste lands in their respective descriptions of runs, and neither party shall dispute the claim of the other within the period of three months after the date of the Gazette in which such descriptions were notified, the person who first lodged with the Commissioner of Crown Lands the description which included this portion of waste lands will be considered the proper claimant to it.

11. Any licensed person may claim a run on any unoccupied portion of the Waste Lands of the Crown, by giving a notice in writing to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, stating his intention to occupy such run, and showing, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, that he is possessed of a sufficient quantity of cattle, provided he occupies the run within three months from the date of giving such notice. Notices of occupation must state distinctly the position and extent of the run claimed: any vagueness in those respects will vitiate the notice.

12. When the boundaries of a run have been defined before the expiration of the term of a notice of occupation, before the lands adjoining such run are claimed, the occupant may fix his boundaries at such a distance from his station as he pleases,

provided the whole run thus defined does not contain a greater extent of pasturage than the cattle upon it require, and provided the dimensions of the run are fairly proportioned with regard to the supply of water and general character of the country.

13. But in those cases in which, previously to the boundaries of a run having been defined, the adjoining lands have been taken up by another person, and disputes as to the extent of the run have arisen, the occupant will be restricted to such an extent of pasturage as may be required for the cattle which he had upon the run at the time the claim to the adjoining lands first arose; and this extent of pasturage will be computed from his station as a centre; and the greatest extent which will in such cases be allowed in any direction for a sheep run, is two miles from the station. If a run be vacated before the boundaries have been defined, it cannot be reclaimed, if, whilst it is so vacant, it shall have been taken possession of, or claimed by a notice of occupation, by any other person.

14. It must, however, be distinctly understood, that nothing contained in these regulations will be construed to interfere with the power of the Commissioner of Crown Lands to limit the extent of any run, or to order such alterations in the boundaries of it as may be thought proper. In the event of a run, or any part thereof, being left unoccupied for an unreasonable length of time, it will be resumed by the Government.

Form of Complaint.

15. The following shall be the form to be observed in bringing complaints before the Commissioner of Crown Lands:

The complainant, or some person on his behalf, shall apply personally to the Commissioner to appoint a time and place for the hearing of the complaint, and shall then cause a notice in writing, signed by the complainant, to be served on the defendant, in the form of the Schedule annexed hereto, marked C, stating the particulars of the complaint, and the time and place appointed by the Commissioner for the hearing thereof.

16. The notice of complaint shall be served either personally

on the defendant, or by leaving the same at his usual place of residence, at least fourteen days previously to the day of hearing, unless the defendant reside more than one hundred miles from the place appointed by the Commissioner for hearing the complaint, in which case the service of the notice shall take place at least twenty-eight days previously to the day of hearing.

17. The complaint shall be made before the Commissioner in the form of the Schedule hereto annexed, marked D, accompanied with a duplicate of the notice served on the defendant.

18. If the defendant fail to appear at the time and place appointed, the Commissioner may proceed to determine the matter *ex parte*, on proof being made to his satisfaction of the due service of the notice of complaint: Provided, however, that in case it shall be afterwards shewn to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the defendant has good grounds of defence, and that he was prevented from appearing by some unavoidable cause, the Commissioner may suspend his decision, and order a rehearing of the case.

19. Any licensed person, against whom the Commissioner of Crown Lands shall give a decision upon the complaint of another licensed person in any matter relating to the depasturing of cattle upon the Crown Lands, will be required to pay a fee of five pounds, when demanded by the said Commissioner.

20. These regulations supersede all regulations which have hitherto been made in pursuance of the Act of Council, 6th Victoria, No. 8.

No. VI.

Copy of Letter to the Colonial Secretary, Adelaide; relative to abandoning Moorunde Station.

London, January 19, 1846.

SIR,

Having observed in the published report of the proceedings of the Legislative Council of South Australia, on the 3rd June, 1845, an account of the Debates upon the estimate for the Salary of the Resident Magistrate at the Murray river, I have the honour to address you with reference to that subject, for the purpose of removing an error of some importance which appears to have occurred, if the copy I have seen of the debates in question be correct. In the paper I have referred to His Excellency the Governor is reported to have said in Council: "He thought it right to state, that Mr. Eyre considered the station might be abandoned, and that opinion had been forwarded to her Majesty's government."

Now if His Excellency did make use of the expressions here assigned to him, it must have been under the influence of some very great misapprehension, for the opinion quoted as mine is quite at variance with the one I hold, and I can only suppose the mistake to have arisen on the part of the Governor, from my having, previous to my quitting the Colony in 1844, sent in an application to Lord Stanley, through His Excellency, soliciting an appointment to some higher and more remunerative office, than the one I held. The passage in my letter to Lord Stanley to which I allude, and which I suppose to have been the basis of the misinterpretation of my opinion above-mentioned runs thus: "Having thus been accustomed for many years to a life of enterprise and activity; devoting myself rather to public objects than to private pursuits, I cannot but feel that from the very success

which has attended my exertions at the Murray river, I am no longer required there, and that a field no longer exists for me to render myself so useful to the public as I could wish, and as I feel assured I could be, if employed in any way that left me full scope for activity and exertion."

In making these remarks, or any similar ones in my letter to Lord Stanley, I had no intention of undervaluing, or of expressing an opinion unfavourable, to the continuance of the Government Post at the Murray. On the contrary, I believe it to be one of the most important, and most useful establishments, formed by the Government, and I am quite of opinion, that if it should be either hastily or imprudently given up, much mischief would ensue. It has had a more extensive and a more beneficial influence than any similar institution ever had before, and it has, I am convinced, been the means of saving the Colony from much loss, and from having to incur the heavy expenses which are invariably entailed, by the frontiers being in a disturbed state. That the question of the withdrawal of the station altogether should have been so often, or so strongly urged, by some of the Members of the Council in the Colony is, I think, a matter of much regret. I am satisfied that if at a future time those who have proposed such a course are enabled to carry out their views, they themselves will eventually have great reason to repent their success.

Thus far as regards my opinion of the importance and utility of the post and the policy of its being still continued. It only remains for me to observe, that as long as I believed that my personally filling the office was important to its duties being successfully carried on, I was quite willing to do so at every sacrifice of private interest; but when the difficulties of the first establishment were thoroughly overcome, when long and uninterrupted success, gave strong proof that it was founded upon no temporary or fictitious basis, and when its duties had been reduced almost to a matter of routine, I trust that my observing that they could then be carried on by any one of ordinary prudence, and firmness, was no proof of my undervaluing the importance

of the office; or that my wishing individually to be removed to a field of higher, and more extensive public utility, was not over-rating my own qualifications, or putting forward a claim to employment beyond what my zeal and energy in discharging the trusts heretofore confided to me, might reasonably entitle me to hope for.

I have the honour to remain, &c.,

(Signed) E. J. EYRE.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
Adelaide.

No. VII.

List of the principal Copper Mines in Cornwall, and all other parts of the world, their produce during the year 1845, *value of ore sold, and average price.*

Mines.	*Tons.*	*Amount.*	*Average Price.*
Bedford United	1187	£8037	£6 15 3
Barrier	228	1292	5 3 3
Botallack	1384	10363	7 9 6
Creeg Braws	546	2902	5 6 3
Camborn Vean	2751	13873	5 0 6
Consolidated	5754	34096	5 18 6
Consols	3044	17049	5 10 6
Cook's Kitchen	502	1522	3 0 6
Carn Brea	6674	39432	5 19 6
Dolcoath	3504	16996	4 17 0
East Pool	929	5430	5 16 6
East Wheal Crofty	6173	36302	5 17 6
Fowey Consols	8976	48933	5 9 0
Godolphin	852	7715	9 1 1
Gramblar and St. Aubyn	1494	8201	5 9 9
Hallenbeagle	2879	10478	3 12 9
Holmbush	1887	14957	7 18 6
Llanivet Consols	1125	6081	5 8 1
Levant	1088	7154	6 11 6
North Downs	306	1731	5 13 1
North Roskear	6430	40955	6 7 3
Penstruthal	405	3344	8 5 1
Par Consols	5449	29594	5 8 6
Perran St. George	1665	7322	4 7 9
Poldice	2485	10889	4 7 6

Mines.	*Tons.*	*Amount.*	*Average Price.*
Providence	639	3602	5 12 9
South Wheal Basset	3390	19961	5 17 9
South Caradon	4631	27319	5 17 9
South Towan	2267	9652	4 5 1
South Roskear	1464	8738	5 12 6
Treleigh Consols	1637	9269	5 1 0
Tresavean	6433	23559	3 13 1
Trethellan	2862	11013	3 16 11
Tretoil	658	3499	5 6 3
Treviskey	767	6435	8 7 9
Tincroft	5644	30527	5 8 3
Trenow Consols	2306	20365	8 16 6
Tresavean Barrier	646	4762	7 7 6
United Hills	3017	12938	4 5 6
United Mines	14374	74908	5 4 3
West Caradon	4457	33273	7 9 3
Wheal Jewel	1476	7892	5 6 11
Wheal Maria	11288	100971	8 18 6
West Trethellan	295	1067	3 12 3
Wheal Gorland	366	1652	4 10 3
Wheal Ellen	714	4373	6 2 3
West Wheal Treasury	267	1274	4 15 3
Wheal Trenwith	171	1131	6 12 3
Wheal Buller	907	3813	4 4 0
Wheal Providence	2442	13783	5 12 10
Wheal Sisters	577	2595	4 9 11
Wheal Trewayas	883	4855	5 9 11
Wheal Prosper	5105	24946	4 17 6
Wheal Brewer	1316	6266	4 15 3
Wheal Darlington	649	2397	3 13 9
Wheal Seton	1590	8636	5 8 6
Wheal Virgin	655	2964	4 10 6
Wheal Prudence	513	1477	2 17 3
West Wheal Jewel	1749	7429	4 4 11

Mines.	*Tons.*	*Amount.*	*Average Price.*
Wheal Harriet	689	2941	4 5 3
Wheal Clifford	348	2254	6 9 6
Wheal Maiden	384	1824	4 15 0
Wheal Vyvyan	378	1462	3 17 3
Total	155,671	£899,502 =	£5 15 6
There are besides 69 other mines which produced during the year, in the aggregate		20,436 5 9	
Making a total for Cornwall		£919,938 6 0	

Irish Mines.

Mines.	*Tons.*	*Amount.*	*Average Price.*
Berehaven	5845	45766 0 0	7 16 6
Knockmahon	6948	46021 0 0	6 12 6
Lackamore	119	1031 0 0	8 13 6
Cosheen	125	2275 0 0	18 4 0
Ballymurtagh	2773	10261 0 0	3 14 0
Cronebane	1448	7106 0 0	4 18 1
Tigrony	577	2940 0 0	5 1 11
Connorree	410	2069 0 0	5 0 11
5 others, aggregate		2006 12 0	4 19 6

Total for Ireland, £119,478: which divided by 18,650, the total number of tons, gives a general average price of £6. 8*s*. 8*d*.

Sundry Mines, principally Welsh.

21 mines, produce 2831 tons = £15,300 = at an average value of £5. 8*s*. 2*d*. per ton.

Foreign Mines.

	Tons.	*Amount.*	*Average.*
Cobre	22741	£261453	£11 9 1
Santiago	7930	115197	14 10 6
Chili	3786	112347	29 13 6
Cuba	5591	78072	13 18 3
San Jose Cobre	2931	36786	12 11 9
Copiapo	658	12307	18 14 0
Valparaiso	283	4414	15 11 11
Pennsylvania	372	4078 0 0	10 19 3
New Zealand	323	4860 0 0	10 10 8
South Australian			
Montacute	277	3754 0 0	13 11 2
Kapunda	243	6017 0 0	24 15 3
Sundry Foreign	551	3300 1 6	
Totals	45,686	£642,590 0 0	

N.B. The high produce of the Chilian ore is accounted for by the greatest part of it being regulus, or calcined ore.

GRAND TOTALS.

	Tons.	*Amount.*
Cornish Mines	162,587	£919,938 6 0
Irish Mines	18,650	119,478 0 0
Welsh	2,831	15,300 0 0
Foreign	45,686	642,590 0 0
	229,754	£1,699,305 17 6

The whole of this vast quantity of copper ore is smelted at Swansea, and only by eight houses, as will be seen from the following statement, compiled from the ticketing papers of 1845.

	Tons.	Amount.
Williams, Foster and Co.	53,132	£430,879 13 7
Vivian and Sons	44,733	318,235 2 3
English Copper Company	37,574	256,640 10 8
Grenfell and Sons	30,730	250,569 3 3
Sims, Willyams and Co.	27,402	221,597 15 2
Freeman and Co.	23,281	141,616 14 1
Mines Royal	13,094	75,536 10 10
Crown Copper	808	4,230 7 6
	229,754	£1,699,305 17 6

Of the produce in fine metal from the above, there were exported to India 4,849 tons, in the past year 1845, which shows a large decrease on the year 1844, when 7,138 tons of fine copper were exported to India.

No. VIII.

ADELAIDE PRICES OF PROVISIONS, PRODUCE, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Extracted from an Adelaide Paper of October, 1845.

[Every article enumerated in this list is grown, produced, or manufactured in the Colony.]

GRAIN, FLOUR, ETC.

Wheat, per bushel, 4s 6d to 4s 9d
Flour, fine, per 200lbs, 28s
Ditto, seconds, ditto, 21s
Pollard, per 20lbs, 11d
Bran, per bushel, 7d to 8d
Barley, English, per bushel, 3s to 3s 6d
———, Cape, 2s to 2s 6d
———, pearl, per lb, 4d
Oatmeal, per lb, 2d, od
Barley-meal, per 50lbs, 3s 6d
Bread, 2lb loaf, 3d
Malt, per bushel, 5s to 5s 6d
Biscuit, per 100lbs, 18s
Biscuit, cabin, ditto, 20s, all kiln dried
Cobbett's corn, per bushel, none in the market
Chicken, ditto, ditto
Oats, per bushel, 3s 6d
Maize, ditto, none in the marke
Hay, per ton, £1
———, oaten, ditto, £2
Peas, per bushel, 5s
Straw, per load, at the stack, 2s 6d
Ale, draught, per gallon, 2s
———, bottled, per dozen, 9s

POULTRY AND DAIRY PRODUCE.

Fowls, per couple, 2s 6d to 3s
Ducks, per couple, 3s 6d to 4s
———, wild, ditto, 1s 3d
Geese, each, 5s to 6s
Turkeys, each, 4s to 7s
———, wild, each, 4s to 8s
Rabbits, each, 6d to 1s
Pigeons, per pair, 1s 3d
Butter, fresh, pr. lb., 8d to 10d
Butter, salt, per lb., 8d
Cheese, per lb., 9d to 10d
Milk, per quart, 3d to 4d
Eggs, per dozen, 8d
Bacon, per lb., 6d to 8d
Hams, ditto, 8d
Sucking pigs, 5d per lb.
Lard, 6d to 8d

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

Beef, per lb., 3d to 4d
Mutton, ditto, 2½ to 3½d
Veal, ditto, 4d to 6d
Lamb, ditto
Pork, fresh, ditto, 3½d to 4d
Corned beef, 3d to 4d per lb
Pork, salted, per lb. 5d
Sausages, per lb., 6d
Tripe, ditto, 6d
Calves' heads, 2s to 3s
———, feet, 1s 6d per set

FISH.

Salmon, (sea), 3 for 1s
Mullet, 30 to 40 for 1s.
Snappers, per lb., 2d to 3d
Ray or Skate,
Flounders, per pair, 6d
Whitings, per dozen, 6d
Lobsters, 2d to 1s
Crayfish, each, 6d to 2s
Crabs, each, 2d to 6d
Murray cod, per lb., 2d to 3d.
do salt, 3d
Shrimps, per pint, 8d
Perriwinkles, per quart, 5d
Bream, per doz., 8d
Soles, small, per pair, 1s 9d
Oysters, per doz., 9d to 1s
Herrings, dried, per doz., 4d

The above are the usual prices of fish when in season; but there is none in the market, except native herrings, Murray cod, and bream, all of which are excellent.

FRUITS.

Almonds	Figs	Cherimoyer	Mulberries white
Apricots	Gooseberries	Hazel nuts	,, black
Apples	Grapes	Filberts	Mangoes
Banana & plantain	Granadillas	Nectarines	Olives
Blackberries	Guavas	Pine apples	Pears
Barberries	Kie apples	Plums	Pomegranates
Cape Gooseberries	Lemons and	Peaches	Prickly pears
Citrons	oranges	Quinces	Raspberries
Cherries	Loquats	Rose apples	Strawberries
Chesnuts	Medlars	Tomatoes	Walnuts

The greater part of these fruits have already become very abundant in their season, each succeeding year giving proofs of increase which seem to baffle calculation, and far surpass the former anticipations of the most sanguine cultivators.

VEGETABLES AND HERBS.

Brocoli	Rue	Thyme	Shallots
Cauliflowers	Hyssop	Marjoram	Garlic
Beans	Parsnips	Savory	Cabbage
,, French	Sage	Carrots	Turnips
Peas	Beet	Potatoes, 9s per cwt.	Onions
Artichokes	Lettuce	Vegetable marrow	Squash
Parsley	Endive	Pumpkins	Celery
Mint	Sea kale	Horse-radish	Radishes

GROCERIES.

Soap, 3d to 5d
Candles, mould, 7d
———, dips, 6d
Rough fat, per lb., 3d
Graves, ditto, 1d
Oil, castor, pints, 5s
——, sperm, per gallon, 5s
——, whale, ditto, 2s 6d
——, neat's foot, 10s
Starch, per lb., 8d
P ditto, 1s 6d
Salt, colonial, per lb., from 1d
Blacking, paste, in tins, per doz., 6s
———, liquid, quarts, 12s, pints, 8s, half-pints, 4s
———, packets, per gross, 10s
Pickles, per quart, 1s 6d
Vinegar, per gallon, 3s
Snuff, per ounce, 3d to 4d
Tobacco, green,
Ditto, cured, per lb., 9d
Sauce tomato, half-pint, 0d

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, ETC.

Bullocks, working, £4 to £8
Cows, milch, £3 to £6 10s
Heifers and steers, £2 to £5
Ewes, 10s to 13s
Ewe lambs, 7s to 9s
Wethers, 10s to 13s
Horses, £7 to £45
Mares, £10 to £36
Ponies, £7 to £20
Pigs, 3s to 30s
Goats, 1s 6d to 8s 6d

LEATHER.

Sole leather, per lb., 10d to 1s 1d
Inner soles, ditto, 9d
Calf skin, dressed, per lb., 3s to 4s 6d
Kip, stout, per lb., 1s 8d to 1s 10d
Kangaroo skins, dressed, each, 2s 6d
Wallaby skins, per dozen, 18s to 20s
Black kid skins, fine, per dozen, 30s
Bazils, per dozen, 12s to 18s
Leather gaiters, per pair, 8s to 20s
Seal skins, each, 1s 3d to 1s 6d
———, dressed, per lb., 2s
Raw hides, each, 9s to 12s
Sheepskins, 3d to 1s, according to season
———, (brown), door mats, 2s 6d to 4s
Parchment skins, each 2s 6d to 3s
Glue, per lb., 1s

TIMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS.

Battens, per foot, 8s to 10s
Laths, 3-foot ditto
Shingles, 15-inch, per 1000, 12s to 14s
———, 2-foot, per 100, 4s to 4s 9d
Palings, broad, per 100, 12s to 16s
———, narrow, ditto 5s to 6s
Quartering, 7s 9d to 8s 4d
Joists, 5 by 2 per 100, 9s to 10s
Split posts, 7 foot long, per 100, 34s to 40s
—— rails, 9 foot long, ditto, 34s
Slabs, per load, of 1000 feet, 25s
Gum logs, per foot, cubic, 1s 6d
——, spokes, per 100, 14s
Gum felloes, per set, 6s to 10s
Sawn scantling, per foot, cubic
Stringy bark flooring boards, 10s to 12s
Bricks, per 1000, delivered, 25s to 28s, *scarce*
Slates, roofing, per 1000, £4 10s
———, flagging, per foot, 4d
Ridge tiles, 4d each
Paving tiles, per 100, 16s
Lime, per bushel, 5d
White freestone, 1s per foot squared and delivered in town
Common building stone, per load, 3s 6d to 5s
Whiting, 6s per cwt.
Window sills, 1s per foot run

FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Ridley's reaping, threshing and dressing machine, complete, £50
Hutchinson's reaping and threshing machines, £30 to £60
Portable ditto, £40 to £100
Winnowing machines, each,
Harrows, each, £2 10 to £4
Ploughs, ditto £4
Turnfurrows, per lb., 4d
Scarifiers, 3-tooth, each, £5
Bullock chains, each, 10s
———, yokes and bows, 8s 6d to 10s 6d
Rollers, £3 10s to £4
Wheat sieves, 8s to 10s
Milk dishes, tin, each 2s 6d to 5s 6d
—— pails, each, various
—— churns, round, each, 28s to 30s
—— ditto, square, each, 20s to £5 10s
Butter casks, each, 3s to 3s 6d
Hurdles, per 100, £5
Spring carts, each, £18 to £20
Wheelbarrows, each, 28s
———, miner's, each, 20s

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES.

Beer casks, per gallon, 6d
Buckets, each, 3s 6d
———, well, each, 7s to 9s
Brass castings, per lb., 2s
———, heavy, 1s 6d
Bell castings, various
Rivets, per lb., 7d
Wheelbarrow wheels, per cwt., 34s to 36s. or each, 6s to 9s
Truck wheels, ditto, ditto
Flag baskets, each, 6d to 5s
Heathbrooms, ditto, from 4d to 1s
Iron work for drays, per lb., 6d
———, for light carts, per lb., 10d

MISCELLANEOUS.

Gum, per cwt., 18s to 20s
Bark, per ton, 30s to 40s
Nails, per lb., 4d to 7d
Charcoal, per bushel, 5d to 6d
Firewood, per load, 4s to 10s

THE END.

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